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40p

Major meets Kohl in Bonn

Britain rejects new draft of European treaty

By RICHARD FORD AND IAN MURRAY

THE prime minister held four hours of talks with Helmut Kohl yesterday in a bid to win German support for British opposition to key areas of the latest draft treaty for European political union.

Only hours before John Major arrived in Bonn, the government rejected parts of the new version of the treaty which retains the aim of working towards a federal goal.

Officials in the Foreign Office and at 10 Downing Street spent yesterday studying a text of the treaty on political union which arrived in London late on Saturday. After an initial examination, a senior government source said that while some progress had been made, parts of the new draft, prepared by the Dutch

president, remained unacceptable to Britain.

The source said: "We are still working towards getting an agreement at Maastricht, and want to do that. There are things in the present text that suit us... but there are bits we cannot live with, and as it stands we cannot sign it."

Mr Major's discussions with Herr Kohl centred on immigration and justice, where Britain is strongly opposed to giving the EC powers to shape policies in both areas. The other contentious areas discussed related to the federal goal, plans to give the community greater powers over social issues, particularly in areas relating to employment, legislation, and proposals to give the European Parliament increased powers. The government strongly opposes anything that will take powers

from national parliaments or give additional legislative power to the European Parliament. It welcomed plans in the draft which would give the European Parliament power to monitor the work of the commission and to improve financial accountability.

A unanimous decision last Friday of the Bundesrat, Germany's upper house composed of representatives of the 16 Länder, means it would refuse to ratify the treaty on political union if it lived off any of the powers currently vested in state parliaments. This position is almost identical to that of the British government.

Ministers are still resisting proposals in the draft to extend EC powers into education, health, culture, energy and research and development, but expect German support in attempts to remove them from the draft treaty.

After last week's Nato summit meeting, when Herr Kohl made plain that he accepted the "primacy" of the alliance in the defence of Europe, there remained little argument over a common "European defence identity" which both governments now accept as an essential ingredient of political union. Foreign and defence ministers of the nine Western European Union countries met in Bonn next Monday to draw up guidelines for the way in which it will co-ordinate the work of the "European pillar" of Nato.

Britain hopes this will be referred to Maastricht for inclusion in the treaty.

Whitehall is less happy about ideas for qualified majority voting on foreign policy, although even here a consensus is emerging around a system, proposed by Germany, in which countries would be asked to agree unanimously on those areas where a majority decision could be taken. This formula would allow a country to veto a policy or to allow itself to be outvoted on issues which it did not consider to be vital.

Defining the different areas would be difficult, but expressed in broad terms in the treaty, the idea could satisfy both countries.

As Mr Major travelled to Bonn, Norman Lamont, the Chancellor, also warned that it was wrong to assume a British decision to sign up for economic and monetary union was "in the bag". He suggested that a single currency would not come about until the next century.

Mr Powell, of course, is a past master at using language to imply a particular course of action. Many people still believe that during the two general elections of 1974 he urged the electorate to vote Labour because it was the party committed to a fundamental renegotiation of the UK's terms of entry to the EC and their submission to a referendum.

"I never used the two

Peter Riddell, page 16

Powell calls for anti-EC voting



Powell: more advice

Ridley: EC hostility

Nicholas Ridley appears to have echoed Enoch Powell's advice to voters to oppose transfer of control to the EC, reports Richard Ford

As a veteran opponent of the European Community, Enoch Powell yesterday joined Nicholas Ridley in urging people to vote for candidates who would strongly resist further economic and political union.

Clearly enjoying the spectacle of the former trade secretary moving towards his long-held position, Mr Powell said: "He might have plagiarised what I said at a rally on the fringe of the Conservative party conference. I have no doubt feeling on this subject is rising rapidly among the general public and in the Conservative party. I hope the government is aware of it."

In a speech at the weekend, Mr Powell offered voters advice on how to vote at the next general election in terms similar to Mr Ridley's. Although some headlines suggested that Mr Ridley had called on people to vote Labour, a closer look at his remarks showed that he gave the opposition no such blanket endorsement.

Given Mr Ridley's hostility to further encroachments by Brussels and the new enthusiasm for the EC in the Labour leadership, it would have been illogical for the former trade secretary to make such a recommendation.

Instead, he adopted the formula used most often by Mr Powell.

Mr Ridley told BBC Radio 4's *The Week in Westminster* that it was better for people to vote for a candidate who was a Euro-sceptic than a Euro-phile.

"What they must do is to enquire of all their candidates which of them is prepared to take a stand on this issue, and vote for him or her," Mr Ridley said.

From Mr Powell, the former Tory minister and Ulster Unionist MP, came the advice: "People should vote for those they believe would resist the further transfer of control away from them, the electorate. That depends on the individual candidate."

Mr Powell, of course, is a past master at using language to imply a particular course of action. Many people still believe that during the two general elections of 1974 he urged the electorate to vote Labour because it was the party committed to a fundamental renegotiation of the UK's terms of entry to the EC and their submission to a referendum.

Peter Riddell, page 16



Final respects: rabbi holding a prayer shawl over Robert Maxwell's grave on the Mount of Olives overlooking Jerusalem, in front of family members

Israel buries Maxwell with full honours

From RICHARD BEESTON IN JERUSALEM

ROBERT Maxwell's sense of the dramatic did not abandon him yesterday, as his final wish was granted at sunset on the rocky and windswept slopes of Judaism's most revered burial ground.

Mr Maxwell was granted what amounted to a full state funeral with honours on the Mount of Olives overlooking Jerusalem's walled city and the Temple Mount. It was attended by President Chaim Herzog, Prime Minister Yitzhak Shamir, Labour party leader Shimon Peres and nearly every minister and official in the Israeli hierarchy.

"Robert Maxwell was a figure of almost mythological stature," Mr Herzog said in a eulogy. "Risen from the perils of the Holocaust and the second world war to creation and control of a world communications empire, he was self-made. We in Israel have been deeply moved by his feeling for this land and our cause, the feeling that led him to profound concern and commitment, expressed in significant involvement in many facets of our struggle for economic independence, for the absorption of the Russian immigration, for the security of the country and for the achievement of peace."

His legacy was perhaps best summed up at his graveside by Ehud Olmert, Israel's health minister and a close friend of Mr Maxwell. "He once said to me, 'After all, I have not done so badly for a young Jewish boy from the shetl [Jewish ghetto],'" Mr Olmert said. "Indeed, Bob Maxwell, you have not done badly at all. May your soul rest in peace in this ancient ground which finally became yours."

To the doleful incantations of the Kaddish, the Jewish funeral prayer, four rabbis carried his shrouded body to be interred. His widow, Elisabeth, remarked: "Now the circle closes. He has returned to his roots."

Mourners at the graveside, and those who arrived in their hundreds earlier in the day to pay their respects as his body lay in state, reflected the extraordinary breadth of interests and contacts which he

Continued on page 22, col 5

Leading article, page 17

Yugoslav presidency calls for UN peace troops

From JAMES BONE IN NEW YORK

THE Serbian-dominated Yugoslav presidency has called for United Nations peace-keeping troops to set up buffer zones in Croatia to protect Serbs in the republic.

The request marks an apparent attempt by Serbia to consolidate its territorial gains as the troops have been asked to station the frontlines - in effect, the borders of "greater Serbia".

Croatia said it supported UN intervention, but it wants

the troops to police its border with Serbia. The request was made as fighting intensified in the Adriatic port of Dubrovnik and in the besieged town of Vukovar in eastern Croatia.

Croat reservists in Dubrovnik were yesterday ordered to report for immediate duty after at least two people were killed and 20 were injured during heavy air and sea bombardment. Phil Davison, of *The Independent*, was injured when federal forces fired machineguns at his hotel.

Last night, Western diplomatic sources at the UN in New York said it was "very unlikely" that any force would be sent to Yugoslavia. "They appear to be talking about rather different things," said one diplomat. "I think the United Nations would be very wary indeed of getting caught between these sorts of groups unless it is absolutely clear that it was wanted by both sides, that there is a ceasefire and that they want them [the troops] to keep them apart."

The diplomat suggested that the four-man rump federal presidency had made the request on Saturday to derail moves to impose the UN oil embargo requested by the European Community last

week. President Bush said at the weekend that America would join the EC in imposing economic sanctions, but he and his aides made clear that it was doing so without great enthusiasm and with little confidence that they would achieve the desired results.

One senior American official said the move was called the American move "largely symbolic" and it appeared that Mr Bush was trying to avoid a split with the EC.

The five permanent members of the UN Security Council - Britain, China, France, the Soviet Union and the United States - are due to discuss a draft resolution on the oil embargo today.

The appeal was almost certainly co-ordinated with the commanders of the federal forces, who have helped rebel Serbs capture one-third of Croatia since it declared its independence on June 25. It independence on June 25, it asked for UN troops to form buffer zones in Croatia between Croats and the Serbs, who account for 600,000 of the republic's 4.6 million people.

Belgrade call, page 12
Dubrovnik shelled, page 12
Leading article, page 17

'Halt atom test' plea

By TIM MILES

LEADING medical campaigners against nuclear weapons have appealed to the government to abandon a nuclear test which they believe is due to take place soon in the United States.

In a letter to *The Times* today, Sir Raymond Hoffenberg, president of Wolfson College, Oxford, says that after the collapse of the Soviet Union, nuclear tests are no longer necessary and should be stopped. He writes as president of the Medical Campaign Against Nuclear Weapons.

The letter is also signed by two other members of the campaign, Lesley Morrison and Andrew Haines.

The letter refers to preparations for the testing of a nuclear device in the Nevada desert where tests are often held at this time of year.

Britain has a running programme of nuclear tests but the defence ministry does not disclose details about timing. Britain has used the Nevada site since the Fifties.

Letters, page 17

BBC hopes to clean up with the old soaps

By MELINDA WITTSTOCK MEDIA CORRESPONDENT

VINTAGE episodes of Britain's best soap operas - from teenager Lennie Grove's first sip of champagne in *The Grove Family* to the celebrated argument between Elsie Tanner and Ena Sharples in Granada's *Coronation Street* - could be back on our screens from next autumn as part of a new pay-TV service.

The BBC is considering setting up the soap channel as a way of exploiting its vast archive of programmes. The repeats, which could also include *Compass*, *Neighbours*, *Crossroads* and *Newcomers*, would be broadcast through the night on both BBC channels as part of BBC Select, a new subscription television service expected to cater for as many as 25 specialist audiences by 1993. Pro-

grammes will be transmitted direct to subscribers' video recorders using a special decoder.

"We are convinced there is a large audience for a soap service," John Radcliffe, managing director of BBC Select, said. "But it is still a twinkle in our eye. Negotiations on the various rights have not yet begun, but we would love to get it on the air by next autumn."

A Granada spokesman said well over half of the 18 million people who now watch *Coronation Street* would want to watch old episodes dating from its launch in December 1960.

BBC Select, which next May launches its first subscription service, a management training programme called *The Executive Business Club*, said it needs just 80,000 subscribers to make any niche channel profitable. Other specialist audiences being targeted include

golfers, motor racing fans and yachtsmen as well as professional groups including lawyers, doctors, hoteliers, accountants and farmers. Special services for the Asian and Irish communities are planned, with televised training courses in languages, office skills, computers and parenting. BBC Select also plans services for science fiction enthusiasts and foreign film buffs as well as several music channels, from heavy metal to opera.

The soap service could be run either by the BBC or Granada, although the latter has not yet been approached, Mr Radcliffe said. It could, however, lead to complicated deals with various unions on repeat fees for actors, writers, musicians and directors, which could prove financially crippling. Equity, the actors' union, said it was open to negotiation on special projects.

And the good news, Mr Van Winkle...



600

The audited circulation of *The Times* in October rose to 392,577, an increase of 4,874 on the previous month.

Arts	14,20
Births, marriages	18,19
Deaths	19,22
Crosswords	38
Law Report	17
Letters	18
Obituaries	31-34
Power Generation	35-37
Sport	21
TV & radio	21



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SECURITY

Healthier living hits sales of spirits



Focus, pages 31-34

A complaint against the *Daily Mirror* for implying doctors would be bribed to take their patients off hospital waiting lists has been upheld by the Press Complaints Commission. A reference to doctors being paid £360 was ambiguous in an article headlined "Docs are bribed to axe sick patients". Yorkshire Health Authority said that the money would go to fund patients' health care and not to GPs.

Malcolm Rifkind, the transport secretary and former Scottish secretary, yesterday dismissed calls for devolution for Scotland, claiming that it would damage the future economic prospects of Scotland as well as England and Wales. Speaking on Channel 4 he said that the idea might be attractive theoretically but that fundamental constitutional change could not be imposed without public acceptability.

Ship's big catch

simply isn't cricket not to make a Will."

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Most of the 108 English education authorities have gone over to local management, although the inner-London boroughs were given extra time to adapt.

In a recent book, *The Gospel of Connection*, Bishop Marshall, the former bishop of Woolwich in the Southwark diocese, and now director of the Anglican Institute in the US, says that the Church of England has not been conspicuous in "evangelistic zeal" and warns that a decade of evangelism "will necessarily involve a decade of confrontation".

He says: "The call to win Islam for Christ is on the agenda, along with other great powers who at the moment reject the claims of Christ."

Oxford-educated Canon Graham, professor of New Testament at the University of British Columbia, Vancouver, predicted a Methodist-style preaching mission.

Those from abroad or London were more discerning as they felt the fabrics for quality and pored over the prints. Everyone was calculating their chances of buying a bargain at the sale, which starts today.

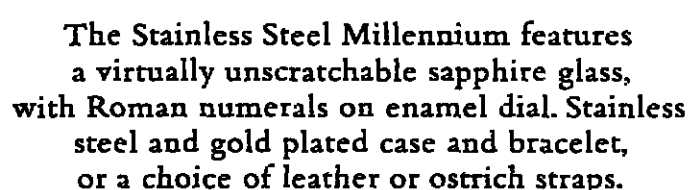
With the heritage lobby dissuading our aristocrats from off-loading their most valuable possessions, this is the closest we can get these days to a good old country house sale, the emphasis being on quantity rather than quality. The big question was whether the Brideshead factor, or the glamour associated with Castle Howard since the famous television series was filmed there, still has its magic.

While making their calcula-

The zoo's owner, Colin Vince, has given up a six-year battle to make the project viable but only once in that time has the venture made a profit. Falling attendances because of the recession made yesterday's closure inevitable. Next

He placed large expensive animals such as lions and tigers with other zoos and built up a collection of exotic birds and monkeys. Mr Vince also successfully bred several threatened species.

"It is tragic that our zoos are dying out but if the recession continues only a handful will remain in Britain by the end of the century and future generations of children will grow up not seeing what animals look like in the flesh."



ALFRED DUNHILL

VISIT ALFRED DUNHILL IN LONDON AT DUKE STREET, ST JAMES'S. THE BURLINGTON ARCADE, 5 SLOANE STREET AND AT ALFRED DUNHILL IN HARRODS AND SELFRIDGES. WATCHES ALSO AVAILABLE AT WATCHES OF SWITZERLAND LTD. THE GOLDSMITHS GROUP HARRODS WATCH DEPARTMENT AND LEADING JEWELLERS.

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Father sought after shooting of driver who killed his son

By TIM MILES

THE father of a boy killed two years ago by a hit-and-run lorry driver was being sought by police last night after a shooting incident.

Hospitals and GPs were alerted in the search for Stephen Owen, aged 36, a diabetic, the man who police said was thought to be responsible for the shooting. He was last seen near Whitstable, Kent, early yesterday.

The victim of the shooting, which happened on Saturday night at Kemsley, near Sittingbourne, Kent, was Kevin Taylor, aged 33, who recently served an 18-month jail sentence for causing the death, by reckless driving, of Darren Owen, aged 12, the son of Stephen Owen.

Mr Taylor was shot twice

with a shotgun by a man who drove up to him in a car. His father, who was walking with him near their home, was injured in the arm. Mr Taylor's condition was said yesterday to be "comfortable" in hospital. His girl friend was discharged after treatment.

Mr Taylor was driving a tipper-truck that ran over Darren Owen in Sittingbourne High Street in October 1989. It emerged at his trial that he had never passed a driving test, that a provisional driving licence had expired and that he was blind in one eye.

Police said yesterday: "If what witnesses have told us is true, Mr Owen would appear to be responsible for the shooting."

A police spokesman said

that there was concern for Mr Owen's health. As a diabetic, he needed regular supplies of insulin. When he left home on the Isle of Sheppey on Saturday, he had only enough to last until early yesterday.

"If he has not been able to get access to any more insulin, his health could be in serious jeopardy," the spokesman said. Without medication, Mr Owen could lapse into a coma and die.

The spokesman added: "According to his wife, there appeared to be nothing unusual when Mr Owen left home on Saturday. As far as she was aware, he had nothing but the clothes he stood up in, certainly no weapon."

Mr Owen's blue Ford Granada car was found by police yesterday abandoned on a housing estate in Margate, but there was no sign of Mr Owen.

A police spokesman said that Mr Owen was last reported seen by a member of the public who noticed him driving in the Whitstable area early yesterday morning.

"We are anxious to trace Mr Owen and we urge him to get in contact with us," the spokesman said.

After Mr Taylor's trial, Mr Owen described him as a "monster" who had shown no remorse for his son's death. Mr Owen criticised the sentence, saying: "He should have gone down for at least ten years."

Mr Owen's brother-in-law, Vic Davis, yesterday appealed to him to "come home". He said: "Everyone sympathises with the way he feels, but this is not the way to do it."

Parents fight for Gulf burial rights

By KERRY GILL

A SCOTTISH couple, whose son was killed 48 hours after the end of the Gulf war, are still trying to find a suitable resting place for their son's ashes.

Yesterday, as thousands of people all over Britain commemorated Remembrance Day, Thomas Haggerty and his wife, Margaret Anne, had hoped to visit the war graves section of their local cemetery in Glasgow. Their son, Thomas, aged 20, died after stepping on a landmine after the ceasefire, while serving with the 1st Battalion The Royal Scots.

Mr Haggerty said that they had been refused permission to erect a memorial stone in the official war remembrance section of Eastwood cemetery because the War Graves Commission said that only those who died in the two world wars were eligible.

"We have been trying to find a spot to put my son's ashes and erect a stone in his memory. There is a war remembrance section in our local cemetery but we have had no success. My wife was also told that the Gulf conflict was not a war, so the War Graves Commission could not help," said Mr Haggerty, who, with his wife, joined the

recent visit to Florida by relatives of Gulf war victims and met President Bush.

They said their son's ashes would remain at Parkhead Congregational Church until the matter was resolved.

Mrs Haggerty said she also asked the Soldiers, Sailors and Airforce Association to help. They made a plea to the commission on her behalf, but failed to move it.

No one was available from the commission for comment.

Relatives of British soldiers killed by American "friendly fire" during the Gulf war were dismayed last night after a copy of the Pentagon enquiry report into the incident sent to them by President Bush failed to clarify who was responsible (Ray Clancy writes).

The 24-page report, promised to the families of the mine who died by Mr Bush, says that there were no allied markings on the victims' convoy and that the vehicles were moving when two A10 tank-buster aircraft opened fire.

The families had hoped that the US document would clarify the matter. But they claimed evidence given to the Pentagon by the two US pilots had largely been ignored.

Remembrance Day, page 22



Student boycott: Emma Perry, left, and Julia Ball say they never use union facilities

Students risk ban for refusing to pay union fees

By JOHN O'LEARY, HIGHER EDUCATION CORRESPONDENT

TWO students at a Birmingham college face expulsion because they refuse to pay subscriptions to the students' union.

Emma Perry and Julia Ball, both 18, have been ordered to pay the annual fee of £30.40, although they claim that they never use union facilities. Birmingham College of Food, Tourism and Creative Studies has told the students that it will have no choice but to bar them from their courses unless they pay.

Mike Rose, Miss Perry's stepfather, said yesterday: "My daughter is being denied an education simply because she refuses to join a union. It seems they are operating a closed shop." He is threatening to go to court to get the rule overturned. "I will take this as far as I can go," he said.

Roger King, Conservative MP for Birmingham Northfield, said: "This is absurd and ridiculous. No one should be obliged to join a union of any kind. Freedom of choice should rise above this unreasonable college policy."

Birmingham's education committee insists that all full-time students at the city's colleges of further education must be members of their students' unions. Fees range from £5 at the Matthew Boulton college to the £30.40 charged at the college, where the two women are studying hair and beauty.

Both paid their subscriptions for two years, but decided on a boycott when the charge was increased. Miss Perry, who pays her way with a part-time job, said: "They're saying, 'If you don't pay the money, you can't come to college. But it's not the college; it's the union. If the money went to the college, I wouldn't mind.'"

David Jones, director of financial services at the college, said: "Unfortunately, this must be paid by every student and we cannot waive it for any reason, because it is a decision

made by elected members of the education authority. If we did, the money would just be taken from our budget and the college would lose out."

Phil Haynes, assistant director of Birmingham's continuing education management support unit, said: "The College of Food has a large union and it was felt that this was an appropriate charge. We feel it is not a lot to ask for the students to contribute towards this service." He added that this was the first case of its kind, and there would be an investigation.

An education department spokesman in London said: "It is entirely up to each local education authority how much each student is charged for union fees. Birmingham does not appear to be acting illegally."

Local authorities pay the union fees of students on degree courses and others attracting mandatory grants, but most students in further education colleges pay their own subscriptions as part of their tuition fee bills.

The principle of compulsory students' union membership was challenged unsuccessfully in the European Court last month. Robert Halfon, an Exeter University graduate, lost a preliminary hearing on the grounds that the students' union was a part of a professional association or a trade union, thus removing any possibility that civil liberties were being infringed.

Compulsory membership of local unions and the funding of the National Union of Students are under review by the education department. There has been pressure for reform from Conservative MPs, but a survey of unions suggested that most were cost-effective and acting within strictly defined rules.

Letters, page 17
Education, pages 35, 37

Ship leaves mile-long slick after blast

By MICHAEL HORSNELL

MARINE accident and pollution control officers from the transport department were last night investigating the sinking of a 5,200-tonne Swedish freighter that left an oil slick more than a mile long off the Cleveland coast.

A one-mile exclusion zone for shipping was imposed around the roll-on roll-off vessel, which sank in 130ft of water after four explosions, heard more than 50 miles away. As light faded, only the

tip of the bow of the SK Link One could be seen above the surface after salvage teams lost a five-day fight to put out a fire that began in the engine room.

The ship, carrying 8,000 tonnes of timber and wood products, had lain at anchor two miles off Saltburn-by-the-Sea since Tuesday, when the 18-man crew was evacuated, and was finally torn apart when 40 tonnes of sodium chlorate exploded. A transport

department Cessna aircraft with remote sensing devices reported a "rainbow sheen" oil slick more than a mile long and 150 yards wide but strong winds were expected to disperse it without inshore pollution.

The ship had been sprayed for five days by the salvage tug Lady Josephine, which received slight blast damage when the freighter blew up at 3am yesterday. A spokesman for the Tyne-Tees coastguard

said: "The tug was damaged and it's very fortunate no one aboard was hurt. They were pretty startled though. The explosion was reported by craft 50 miles away."

Michael Lacey, managing director of the salvager, United Towing of Hull, said: "The limited firefighting efforts were hampered by severe weather and the presence of sodium chlorate, as well as by the ro-ro type of vessel which can flood and capsize."

Road deaths fall but child casualties remain high

By MICHAEL DYNES, TRANSPORT CORRESPONDENT

ROAD deaths in Britain have fallen to their lowest since 1948, despite a 38 per cent rise in traffic since 1981, according to the latest road safety report by the transport department, published today.

Provisional figures show that deaths fell to 4,655 for the year ending in June 1991, down 18 per cent over the previous year, with serious injuries down 12 per cent, and slight injuries down 8 per cent over the same period. With the Christmas campaign against drink-driving due to begin on December 3, and introduction of tougher measures against drink-drivers and bad drivers coming into effect early next year, the government is on target for reducing the total of road casualties by a third by the year 2000, the report says.

However, although Britain has one of Europe's lowest rates of road deaths per 100,000 population, it has one of the highest rates of child pedestrian casualties. Road safety campaigners have been urging the government to introduce measures designed to reduce that toll.

The 1991 Road Traffic Act will go some way towards meeting those demands. It introduces offences of dangerous driving, and of causing death by careless driving when under the influence of drink or drugs, which carries a maximum five-year prison sentence. The legislation also paves the way for widespread use of cameras to catch drivers jumping traffic lights and breaking speed limits.

Cameras will be installed on motorways and urban roads

and at traffic lights and accident blackspots, and will be moved regularly so that motorists will be unable to tell which areas are watched.

Proposals for random breath testing were rejected due to fears that it could create

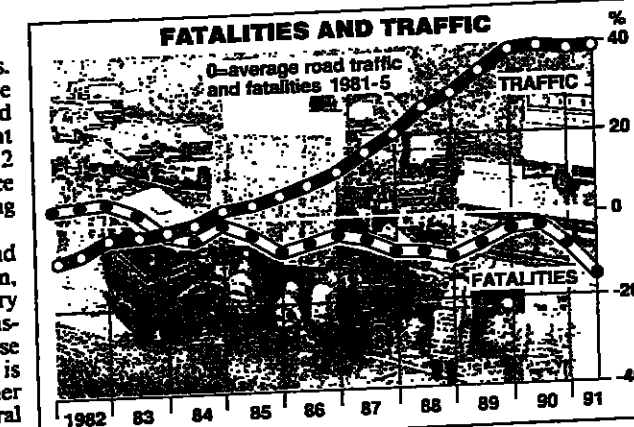
resentment among drivers. Ministers insist that the 600,000 breath tests carried out in 1990-1, a 50 per cent increase over the previous 12 months, indicate that police are making full use of existing powers.

Commenting on the road safety report, Jeanne Breen, director of the Parliamentary Advisory Council for Transport Safety, said: "While these figures look encouraging, it is far too early to know whether they mark the start of a general trend or are a blip due to other factors, such as the recession."

Mrs Breen said: "With a child pedestrian casualty record which is one of the worst in Europe, we cannot look to these figures to tell the whole story. We have told Malcolm Rifkind, the transport secretary, that he can

reduce these casualties quickly and cost-effectively by allocating a minimum of £50 million for local road safety engineering schemes in residential areas where most of these children are injured. Mr Rifkind could reinforce this

initiative by the introduction of random breath testing at special road-side check points, and the widespread implementation of red light and speed cameras, which would provide a further and substantial saving of young lives."



More fail road sight test

By KEVIN EASON, MOTORING CORRESPONDENT

FAILING eyesight could cost the government hundreds of millions of pounds as Britain's car driving population ages, increasing the risk of more serious road accidents.

Road signs may need bigger letters, and junctions may have to be widened so that older drivers with stiff necks can see clearly what is coming towards them.

A conference on Wednesday will present Christopher Chope, the minister for roads and traffic, with evidence that substantial changes to the way roads are laid out will be needed to accommodate Britain's ageing drivers.

There are ten million drivers over the age of 55 in Britain. There will be 12 million by the year 2000 and 17 million within 30 years as people live longer and enjoy larger pensions which keep them mobile and able to enjoy motoring.

The rising age of the car driving population brings increased risks. Although 90

per cent of motorists over 55 believe that they drive as well as ever, statistics show that they are three times more likely to be a road accident casualty. Their waning powers are also likely to be tested more than ever with traffic expected to rise by 142 per cent by 2025, putting more strain on their ability to see road signs and react quickly.

Eyesight worsens and reaction times fall quickly over the age of 55, making it harder to deal with fast-moving traffic at junctions. Older drivers cannot turn their heads quickly enough from side to side and are less able to judge the speed of traffic.

Studies in America have also found that traffic signs with symbols instead of words are much more easily read by the elderly. The studies suggest that an alternative to symbols would be larger letters.

Bert Morris, the AA's highways and traffic manager, says that the govern-

ment must do more to help older drivers if it wants to avoid a big increase in accidents.

The transport department says that motorists over 70 face having to retake the driving test, including an eyesight examination, before they can continue driving, but Mr Morris believes that could be too late for drivers under 70 who already find it difficult on Britain's increasingly congested roads.

He said: "The rapidly increasing numbers of old drivers mean that the proportion of accidents involving them as a group is likely to increase and could become a significant problem in the future."

"Many people will continue to drive well into their old age and over the next 30 years more and more older drivers will be of very advanced years. The road environment must be adapted and improved and better managed to provide a higher level of service and safety."

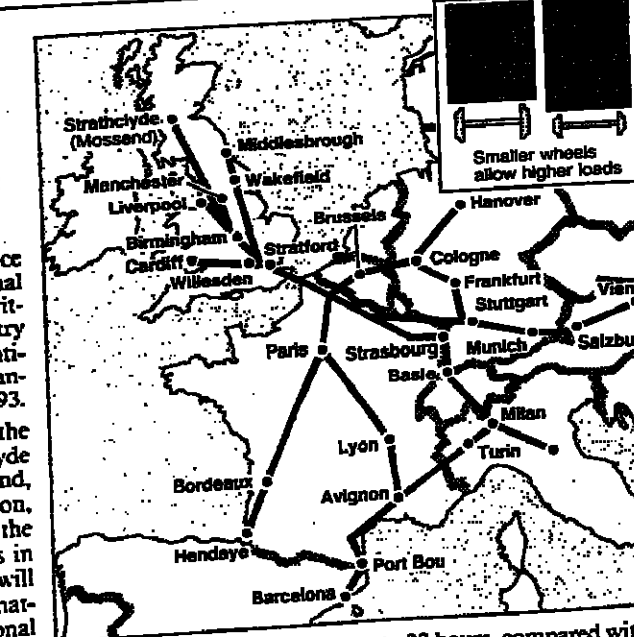
BR names final link for freight

By MICHAEL DYNES

BRITISH Rail will announce today the site of the final freight terminal linking British manufacturing industry with key destinations in continental Europe when the Channel tunnel opens in June 1993.

BR is expected to build the new £40 million Strathclyde freight terminal at Mossend, rather than at Hillington, which will help to offset the effects of the steel closures in the region. The new site will complete a £400 million regional network of nine regional freight terminals designed to provide fast, efficient, and regular services to 20 destinations in Europe from the day the Channel tunnel opens.

The combined road-rail terminals, which promise to reduce lorry journeys by up to 400,000 each year, will give BR its first competitive advantage over the road network since the advent of the motorway. Railfreight Distribution, BR's freight sector, is planning up to 35 trains in



each direction a day, with more if needed.

The network of terminals, which will be located at Wakefield, Manchester, Birmingham, Willesden and Stratford in London, Middlesbrough, Liverpool, Cardiff and Mossend, will cut journey times between Britain's main manufacturing centres and its prime continental markets. Journey times between Glasgow and Paris will be reduced

to 23 hours, compared with 36 hours by road, and London to Munich to 22 hours (42 by road).

To answer criticisms of Britain's incompatibility with European loading gauges, which govern height and width, BR plans to build 3,500 freight wagons with smaller wheels, lowering the height of loading platforms by the six inches needed to accommodate European freight.

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Harrods famous Father Christmas parade will be making its way down Brompton Road at 9.30am this Saturday. In keeping with Harrods 'Christmas Pageant' theme, Father

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European law men meet on drugs unit

By STEWART TENDLER
CRIME CORRESPONDENT

THE first steps towards the creation of a European drugs intelligence unit will be taken tomorrow when Interpol delegates and customs officers meet in Brussels for a two-day conference on improving international co-operation. The unit, first suggested by Britain, could be operational by the mid-1990s.

Decisions taken at the conference, chaired by Douglas Tweedle, head of customs investigations in Britain, will be passed to the EC summit at Maastricht next month. The unit will use computers to link dozens of agencies across Europe. It may prove to be the first of a number of pan-European police groups, including a European police agency suggested by the Germans.

The idea of a drugs unit was first proposed by Douglas Hurd when he was home secretary. Britain backs the need for greater co-operation because of the mounting evidence that traffickers have to be met by concerted international effort.

Haughey reshuffles cabinet after victory

By EDWARD GORMAN, IRISH AFFAIRS CORRESPONDENT



Safe again: a jubilant Charles Haughey leaving the Dublin meeting

CHARLES Haughey, the Irish prime minister, was preparing to reshuffle his cabinet last night after another Houdini-style escape, from perhaps the most concerted move to defeat him from within Fianna Fáil during his 12 years as the party's leader.

It was in the early hours of yesterday, at the conclusion of a 15-hour Fianna Fáil parliamentary party meeting involving 104 speeches, that news of Mr Haughey's fourth resounding triumph over detractors within his own ranks, swept through a still wide-awake Dublin.

Outside the gates of Leinster House, venue of the meeting, hundreds of the Haughey faithful burst into song as word of victory spread. The no-confidence motion had been decisively repulsed by 55 votes to 22. Chanting "Charlie" turned into ugly scenes as Mr Haughey's would-be flayers ran the gauntlet on their way home to bed and the mob pounded on car roofs. "Here's another one," the drunken voice bellowed. "Get rid of yourself will ya," another shouted.

Yesterday, the politicians mounted a predictable damage limitation exercise, saying in interviews that the air had now been cleared and that

Fianna Fáil could finally tear itself away from division over personality politics and concentrate on government.

Immediately after the meeting, an exhausted Mr Haughey professed himself happy and satisfied with the outcome and unconcerned that 22 Fianna Fáil deputies had voted openly against him. He praised the way that his opponents, led by Albert Reynolds, the former finance minister, whom Mr Haughey sacked on Thursday, had handled the debate, noting that they had all said that they would stand behind him if he should stay prime minister.

Mr Haughey refused to be drawn about his plans to step down. He said two weeks ago that he would resign when he felt that the time was right. This weekend, he left open the possibility, as Mr Reynolds had feared, that he might try to lead the party into the next election, scheduled for 1994.

Mr Haughey's victory may have been emphatic, but his position is probably weaker than ever before. Many deputies refused to vote against him because, early in the meeting, by 44 votes to 33, the Haughey camp secured an open ballot on the confidence motion. Others supported him out of sympathy, while the

many dark horses vying for the succession chose not to side with Mr Reynolds so as to show loyalty to the leader.

However, as an unrepentant Mr Reynolds said yesterday, there was no serious disagreement among deputies that Mr Haughey should go. "Most people said 'it's time for change,'" he said. "It was only a question of when." Mr Reynolds clearly hopes Mr Haughey will bow out sooner rather than later, possibly before the next party conference, in March, and declared himself happy to be returning to the back benches to prepare for a leadership battle.

Mr Haughey's critics in the Irish media condemned what they saw as his selfish refusal to relinquish power. Commentators argued that he is sacrificing the stability of the nation for his ambitions.

The political correspondent of the *Sunday Tribune* declared Mr Haughey's victory the most pointless of his career, saying: "It is pointless in terms of political power, for that, apart from the immediate euphoria of last night's success, has been trimmed to the bone. It is, if it works out, a victory only for the dignity of Charles Haughey, a chance to depart from his leadership of Fianna Fáil without a knife protruding from his back."

Mr Reynolds, in his speech to the meeting, described by a Haughey loyalist as a "savage attack" on the leader, alleged dirty tricks by the party against him. He claimed that he had been under surveillance and accused the government press office of a disinformation campaign against him. In response, the party chairman ordered that the claims be investigated by a team including Mr Reynolds. Mr Haughey's victory will be assessed today by the Progressive Democrats, the junior coalition partners in the government, who, despite their distaste for Mr Haughey, appeared unlikely to threaten the government's future after so resounding a victory.

Tomorrow, Mr Haughey is expected to accept the resignations of three junior ministers who voted against him and to reshuffle the cabinet, bringing in loyalists to replace Mr Reynolds and Pádraig Flynn, the environment minister sacked on Friday.

Suspects held after firebomb deaths

Police were questioning several people last night about the death of a mother and son in a petrol bomb attack on their home in a Protestant area near Belfast. Kathleen Lundy, aged 40, and Colin Lundy, aged 16, died in their beds in a fire started by at least two bombs.

The family had suffered a long campaign of intimidation and threats, relatives and neighbours said. Mrs Lundy had married a Catholic 20 years ago and although they had divorced she had brought up her children as Catholics. Loyalist extremists had daubed threats to petrol bomb the house, in Glengormley, on a nearby wall. Mrs Lundy's mother, Irene Bleakley, said: "Kathleen was frightened, but she was tough and wouldn't let them force her out."

Another son, Gerard, aged 19, escaped the fire on Saturday by jumping from an upstairs window. He was in hospital yesterday with cuts and burns. Police said they had made several arrests.

Prisoner flees

Police were hunting a convicted armed robber who escaped from a clinic near Birmingham on Saturday. Paul Tipping, aged 30, an inmate at Winslow Green prison, was being treated for self-inflicted injuries.

Hunt protest

More than 50 hunt saboteurs tried to disrupt a meeting of the Quorn in the Vale of Belvoir, Leicestershire.

Death crash

Three people were killed and a woman was critically injured in a two-car crash on the A350 at Semley, Wiltshire.

Mill closure

A cotton mill at Matlock Bath, Derbyshire, opened in 1784 by Sir Richard Arkwright, closes today with the loss of 97 jobs.

Bond winners

Winners in the weekly National Savings Premium Bond prize draw are: £100,000, number 11HW 589177 (value of holding £3,650, winner lives in West Sussex); £50,000, 32TF 044051 (602, Kent); £25,000, 34AL 989954 (£10,000, Oxford).

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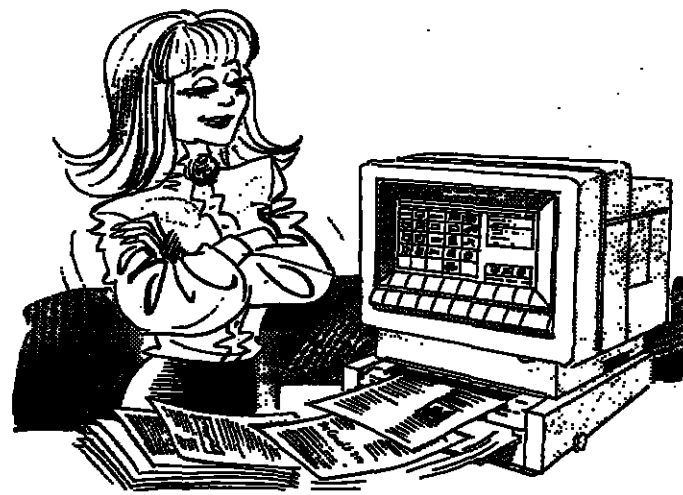
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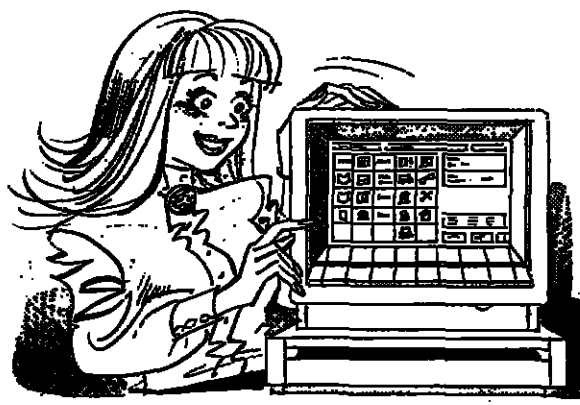
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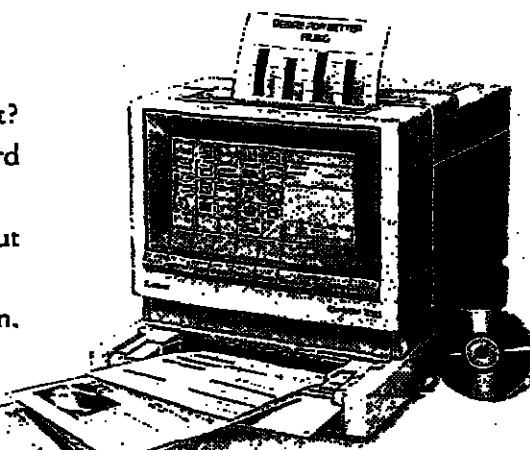
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New Bar chairman wants judges to retire much earlier

By FRANCES GIBB, LEGAL AFFAIRS CORRESPONDENT

THE Lord Chancellor will face renewed pressure to impose a much earlier retirement age for Britain's judges and to advertise all senior judicial posts when the new chairman of the Bar, Gareth Williams, QC, takes over at the end of this year.

Mr Williams told *The Times* that initially judges should be made to retire at 65 - "let's proceed step by step". He pointed out, however, that civil servants, including the director of public prosecutions, bow out at 60.

He also wants senior judicial posts advertised. "What is the sensible distinction between a circuit judge, who can write in and ask for appointment, and a High Court judge, who cannot?"

"What is the reason a circuit judge can be retired at 72 and a High Court judge at 77? He added that those retirement ages were purely notional. Many judges went on sitting well past retirement age."

Mr Williams, aged 50, who can claim to be the first Welsh-speaking Bar chairman (although he is no rugby fan), is likely to continue the process begun by outgoing chairman, Anthony Scrivenor, QC, of radicalising the Bar and of ridding it of a privileged, plum-in-mouth image.

He favours a judicial appointments commission to advise the Lord Chancellor on appointing judges (but not with public hearings), wider consultation and advertisement of posts, and the use, perhaps, of psychological tests to see if judges are temperamentally suited to the job.

"Our judiciary is of an extremely high quality and they do a very difficult job. But we have got to widen the net a lot more. There's a lot to be said for encouraging people at the bottom end."

One way to test aptitude for judicial office, he says, is to give people a stint as a stipendiary magistrate for three weeks. If successful, they could then be appointed immediately as assistant recorders, the first rung on the judicial ladder. This would help women and those from ethnic minorities to move up more quickly.

Like Mr Scrivenor, Mr Williams was not educated at a public school (he went to Rhyll

grammar school, then to Cambridge, where he took a first in law; was called to the Bar in 1965 and became a QC in 1978. From 1986 to 1989, he was leader of the Wales and Chester circuit.

Like his predecessor, too, he comes from the activist grassroots section of the Bar that, five years ago, challenged the rule of the so-called "fat cats" and forced an overhaul of the Bar's governing body to make it more democratic and representative of the rank and file.

Mr Williams, whose own practice has been mixed civil and criminal (he acted for the defence in the Jeremy Thorpe



Williams wants senior judicial posts advertised

trial and for the miners accused of murdering a taxi driver in the last miners' strike), wants a reform of the appeals system.

He favours an independent commission to take over from Home Office officials the task of sifting and referring alleged miscarriages of justice to the Court of Appeal. He also wants the court itself to have full research facilities with legally qualified researchers seconded to it.

He is critical, too, of the way the Court of Appeal often sits with only one appeal judge and two High Court judges. "I don't see why judges at first instance should be sitting in the Court of Appeal."

He wants the public to see that people such as himself with no connections in the law (his father was a school-teacher) have made it to the top. He dismisses the standard trappings of the Bar such as wigs as an "irrelevance", but he favours the retention of gowns, "otherwise people will start appearing in court in shorts".

Thomas Hardy village fumes over 40ft tip

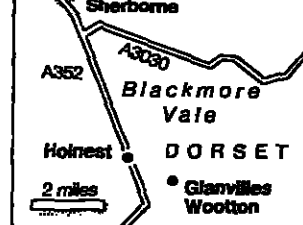
By DOUGLAS BROOM, LOCAL GOVERNMENT CORRESPONDENT

WHEN Thomas Hardy stood on High Stoy hill on an autumn afternoon a century ago and looked north into Blackmore Vale he saw "woodlands interspersed with apple orchards". Thanks to Dorset county council, the view is about to change.

Using powers to give itself planning permission, the county council is about to embark on the construction of a 40ft-high hill, 15 acres across, to cover half a million cubic metres of rubbish.

The site chosen, at Holnest, is a few hundred yards from the setting of Little Hintock, the fictional village in which Hardy's *Woodlanders*. Giles Winterbourne and Grace Melbury lived.

Where Winterbourne once cut saplings for coppicework, county council excavators will scoop out the Oxford clays of the valley bottom and begin a



process known as "land raising" to take refuse from Sherborne, six miles away.

At a public meeting this week, county planners and engineers will attempt to calm the fears of the villagers of Holnest and neighbouring Glanvilles Wootton about the smell, lorries and chemicals produced by the dump.

The council insists that the tip will be "state of the art", lined with polythene, fitted with a water purification plant and designed to prevent methane and other gases escaping. Nets will keep seagulls at bay.

Whatever the tip looks like, it has already divided at least one family. Derek Powell, the farmer who sold the land to the county council at auction for £78,500 18 months ago, has not spoken to his brother Ray since then.

Ray owns the land next to the site and his daughter

Dawn and son-in-law, Martin Preston, had planned to open a nursery there. Now they are devoting much of the energy to fighting the dump.

As the council presses ahead with its plans, the campaigners, who have formed a group called Holnest Against the Rubbish Tip (Hart), have called in wildlife experts to examine the area.

Their latest discovery of great crested newts living in a pond on the site together with three types of orchid will raise the temperature of the debate.

Carolyn Howard-Johnston, a founder of Hart, accuses the county council of failing to plan waste disposal properly in one of Britain's most attractive counties. "They happened upon this site because it was on the market. It was a speculative purchase and now they are trying to justify it as if it was an ideal choice, which it is not. It is about the worst place imaginable," she said.

David Hutchinson, the county surveyor, admits that the purchase of the site was speculative, but says the county had been looking for a new landfill site for nearly a decade. "This is a beautiful county. Whatever we do with waste, someone will be upset. But the same people who complain must accept that they are generating waste in their own homes, which has to go somewhere," he said.

"Even if we incinerate there is still about 25 per cent waste left at the end of the process and that has to go somewhere." He says that the site will be screened by a wood on two sides and earth banks topped with a hedge. It was chosen because it is on impermeable clay and close to the main A road from Sherborne to Dorchester.

The villagers reject talk of tree screening. They say the planners seem to have forgotten that leaves fall in autumn.

Clive Jesty, chairman of Holnest parish council, keeps hens in the next field. "How can you screen a thing like that? It will be a huge artificial hill as high as the trees and they cannot stop the noise or the smell," he said.

EC ban on Halcion demanded

A British ban on Halcion, the world's most widely prescribed sleeping pill, should be extended throughout the European Community, doctors say in the fortnightly *Drug and Therapeutics Bulletin*, published today.

The withdrawal last month of Halcion and similar medicines containing triazolam was recommended by the government's Committee on the Safety of Medicines because of evidence that it could cause serious psychiatric side-effects.

The bulletin welcomes the withdrawal and says it regrets that the action has not been supported by the EC's committee for proprietary medicinal products, which has deferred a decision on the drug. However, it criticises the abrupt manner of the withdrawal and says that a "calmer, more gradual and less secretive process" would have served the public better.

Man found dead

Mark Amston, aged 20, of Caernarvon, Gwynedd, was found hanged the day after having his pit bull terrier put down because he had said he could not afford the third party insurance required for it under the Dangerous Dogs Act.

Drug arrests

Police arrested 20 people and recovered drugs, a machete, a pickaxe and clubs after intercepting convoys of up to 60 vehicles heading from Cheltenham to an acid house party in Oxford.

Poison alert

Police and supermarkets have been alerted after a package containing pre-packed bacon, rat poison and a syringe, plus instructions for mixing them, was sent to a house in Lincoln.

Climber dies

Hamish Charles Cameron, aged 21, of Goochavon, Cornwall, was killed after falling 300ft while climbing in Snowdonia with a party from Brunel University, Uxbridge.

Spoof censured

The Samaritans organisation has condemned a Liverpool University student newspaper after it ran a spoof agony column advising readers how to commit suicide.

Light bulb lasts for 53 years

By TIM MILES

IN THE beginning there was light, and 53 years later there was still light coming from the same electric bulb on the Isle of Wight.

The Southern Electricity Board, intrigued by mounting evidence of unexpected luminous longevity, has challenged its 2.5 million customers to come up with the oldest electric light bulb on record.

The winner will receive as a prize something which would appear at first sight to be superfluous to their needs: a free supply of energy-saving light bulbs.

It began when one of the board's customers on the Isle of Wight, Jim Richardson, told staff at his local electricity board shop that the bulb which first illuminated his lavatory 53 years ago was still going strong. The search has already suggested that Mr Richardson's is a mere strip-light among light bulbs.

Extravagant claims are being made for others said to have winked on and off in cupboards, under stairs, in other lavatories and bouncing around in electricians' boxes for far longer.

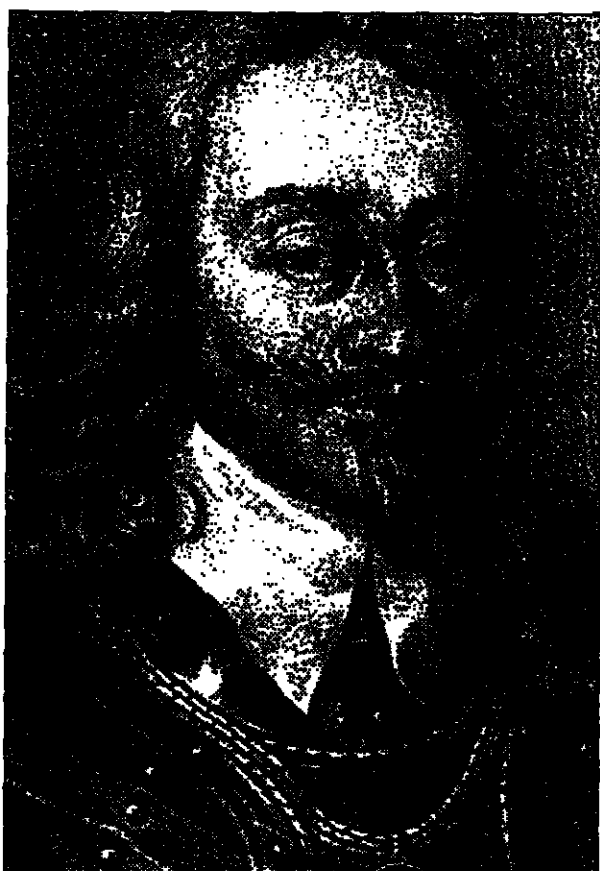
Leading contenders for the prize at present include Gladys Allport, aged 88, from Oxford, who has a 57-year-old bulb which she bought from the city's Woolworth store. "It cost me sixpence then and I've certainly had my money's worth, using it every day in my pantry," she said. "They don't seem to make them like that any more."

Even greater claims are made by Ron Brown, a Southern Electricity Board employee, who reckons his bulb could be 70 years old.

But then his specimen has had an easier life: it was installed in the Twenties on top of an organ in a church in Crouch End, north London, and was flashed during weddings to warn the organist that the bride was ready to walk down the aisle.

Mr Brown, aged 60, from Stubbington, near Fareham, Hampshire, rescued the bulb and now keeps it wrapped in cotton wool in a tin box. "But it still lights up," he said. "They must have made them better then."

Weapons of war exhibition to evoke strife of 1642



Charles I: his gilt armour will be on public display away from the Tower of London for the first time

KING Charles I's gilt armour, the finest Stuart armour made, is to be the centrepiece of a travelling exhibition sponsored by *The Times* to celebrate the 350th anniversary of the outbreak of the Civil War. The armour has never been on public display outside the Tower of London.

The exhibition is the first touring display to be mounted in Britain by the Royal Armouries, England's oldest museum.

The armouries' collections at the Tower and at Littlecote House in Berkshire include the finest surviving Civil War material. With the help of *The Times* the cream of those collections will next year be put on show in towns and cities that played an important part in the events of 1642, as king and Parliament manoeuvred, skirmished and joined battle for power.

More than 60 exhibits have been chosen for the travelling display. They include the armour worn by both Cavaliers and Roundheads, illustrating how similar most of the troops on both sides appeared. Weapons used by cavalry and infantry, including pikes up to 18 ft long, will provide a vivid impression of how

A display of some of the finest relics of the Civil War will be taken on tour next year to mark the conflict's 350th anniversary. Robin Young writes

17th-century battles were fought.

The exhibition will include two working model cannon cast at the end of the 1630s for Charles II as Prince of Wales, and culverins, drakes and sakers, which were the siege and field weapons of the time.

From April 11 to May 31, the exhibition will be at the Town Docks Museum, Hull, the town where in April 1642 Sir John Hotham denied Charles I entry to prevent the magazine, the most important in the country after the Tower of London, falling into the king's hands.

From June 6 to July 26 the exhibition will move to the Whitefriars Museum, Coventry, where Charles's attack was repulsed with the aid of townswomen who took to the town walls wielding herculean clubs. Charles's cannonballs breached the walls of the friary, now the Whitefriars Museum, supposedly killing some of the inmates.

The exhibition will be at

the Castle Museum in Nottingham from August 2 to September 20, coinciding in its stay there with the anniversary of the official date for the start of the Civil War, which is taken as being August 22, 1642, the day on which Charles raised his royal standard at Nottingham.

From September 26, 1992, to January 3, 1993, the exhibition will be in the Foregate Museum at Worcester, the city where King Charles's cousin, Prince Rupert, achieved his first cavalry victory over the parliamentarian forces. From January 9 to March 28, 1993, the display will be at the Corinium Museum, Cirencester, a town which Rupert took by storm, imprisoning 1,200 Parliamentarians in the nearby church.

Although designed to commemorate the outbreak of the war and to explain what was at issue and how the battles were won or lost, the exhibition follows the civil war story to the end. The final exhibits in what

promises to be one of the most memorable historical exhibitions in this country are the buff coat believed to have belonged to the regicide Colonel Francis Hacker, an axe head retrieved from the Thames, and the mortuary sword that is believed to have belonged to Oliver Cromwell.

Guy Wilson, master of the structures at the Tower of London, said: "We have long wanted to send travelling exhibitions to smaller museums around the country. Through the good offices of *The Times* we have got the first travelling exhibition on the road. We hope it will be the first of many."

Simon Jenkins, editor of *The Times*, said: "The 300th anniversary of the outbreak of the Civil War was deliberately unmarked because at that time Britain was fighting for its liberty in the second world war. Fifty years on is no bad time to be recalling the principles of liberty over which the Civil War was fought, a war as crucial politically as it was militarily dramatic."

"*The Times* is delighted to be sponsoring this touring exhibition commemorating an often misunderstood turning point in British history."

Who was getting hurt most during the Gulf War?



'HOME FIRES': It wasn't only the soldiers who faced the horrors of war. The wives and mothers may have stayed behind last January but they faced their own anguish and fears, heightened by live TV coverage of the front line hostilities. This programme follows the lives of some of these women and their tension and uncertainty as the air strikes began. To see how they coped, watch 'Cutting Edge' tonight. In this new season of documentaries we look at the many different worlds that make up Britain today. It's fascinating viewing made compulsive by the fact that these worlds are inhabited by our neighbours. Every Monday at 9pm we draw back the curtain.

CUTTING EDGE.

KEEP AN EYE ON 4 9PM. MONDAYS.

Magic Johnson hailed for his heroism

Star refocuses US attention on Aids

FROM CHARLES BRENNER IN NEW YORK

FOR the second time in a month, the American psyche has been jolted by one of those moments of trauma which, it is said, marks a turning point in the nation's collective consciousness.

The first was the Judge Clarence Thomas hearing in the Senate, a psychodrama about sex and race which, at least for now, has transformed the way men and women behave towards each other at work. The latest was the announcement by Earvin "Magic" Johnson, the Los Angeles basketball star and widely popular sportsman, that he had been infected with the Aids virus.

This was an event which has transcended sports or the youth culture of inner cities which venerates the gentlemanly Mr Johnson as the greatest role model of the age. This was the moment that the United States changed its attitude to Aids. The impact of Rock Hudson's affliction had been mild in comparison. If Magic, the model of clean-living vigour and grace, could have the virus, then anyone could. "For most Americans, a decade of thinking of Aids as amorphous and remote has come to an abrupt end," said the *Los Angeles Times*.

Yesterday, four days after Mr Johnson's announcement, younger Americans could still talk of little else. As disbelief gave way to mourning, congregations prayed for Mr

Johnson and crowds at matches stood in silence. Again and again, Americans resorted to the country's yardstick of shock — President Kennedy's assassination.

Tom Bradley, mayor of Los Angeles, said he felt as if he had been "hit in the stomach by a 300lb hammer". President Bush, in Europe, was being asked to pronounce on



Press support: New York rallies behind Johnson

Mr Johnson almost as much as on matters of state. He hailed Mr Johnson's heroism but took the opportunity to condemn the disruptive behaviour of extreme "Aids activists". The *Boston Globe* compared the shock to the moment when the space shuttle Challenger exploded in 1986.

The reaction has gone far beyond the hyperbole of sports commentators. The *New York Times*, a sober-minded newspaper, said that

Mr Johnson "broke the nation's heart" on Thursday. The way he had announced his infection, which he indicated had been acquired through sex with a woman, had shamed Mr Bush, "whose silence has allowed this plague to disappear from the national agenda", it said. "Mr Johnson ... is now filling a presidential vacuum. The national can be thankful for his bravery."

Mr Johnson, who is aged 32 and was recently married, has now committed himself to spreading awareness of the dangers of Aids, which has killed 125,000 Americans. Some 1.5 million Americans are believed to carry the virus. Health officials have lately been sounding the alarm over the failure of American teenagers to take precautions against the disease. There was a consensus among health experts and commentators that Mr Johnson's announcement would shake the young out of their apathy, as well as parents who were reluctant to broach the subject of "safe sex" practices.

Race is a factor in the Johnson trauma. The news has been particularly devastating among the young blacks who have worshipped Mr Johnson as a man who has mixed greatness in his field with modesty unattained by drugs or other vices. The *New York Times* said childhood had ended for tens of thousands of youngsters.

Hong Kong deportations will go on

FROM JONATHAN BRAUDE IN HONG KONG

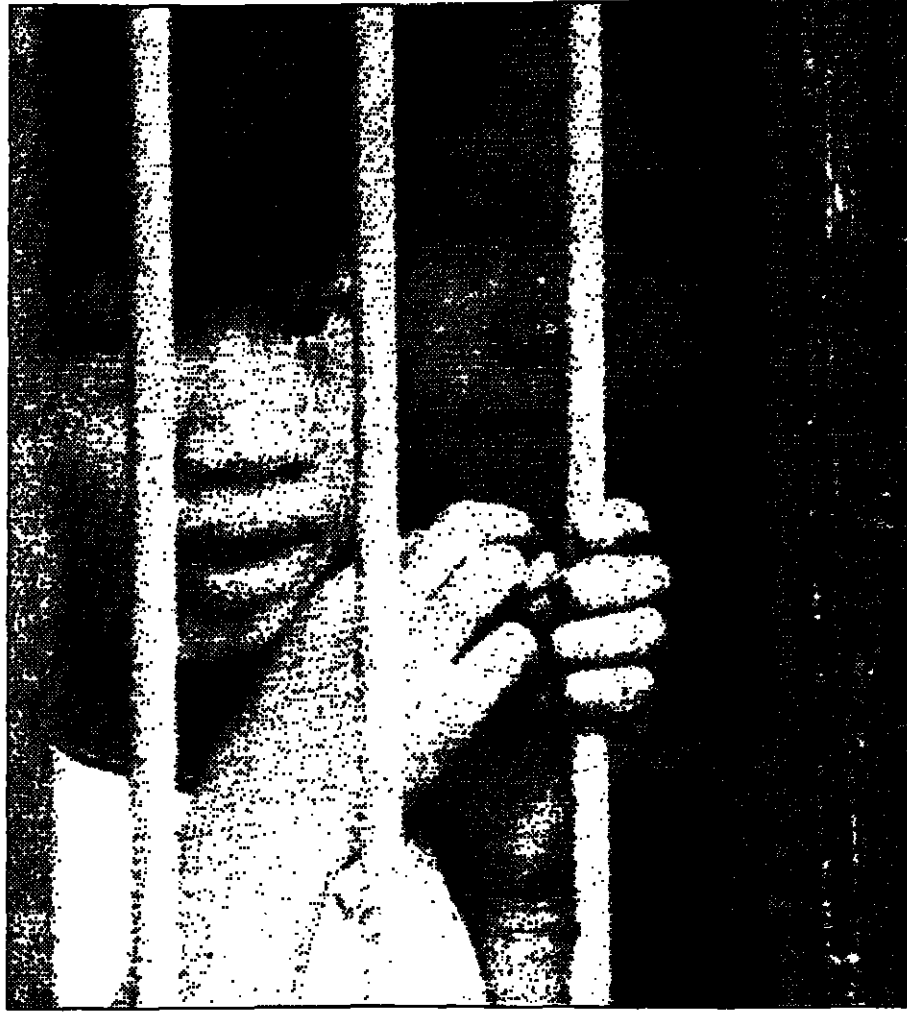
HONG Kong is determined to continue deporting Vietnamese boat people in spite of allegations of police brutality and a growing international outcry over the amount of force used at the weekend on the first group repatriated from the colony since December 1989.

Officials are planning the next deportations for late this month or early next. But, as news broke last night that one of the deportees had been arrested by the Vietnamese government on charges of murder and theft, Hong Kong government spokesmen rejected allegations that others, including a pregnant woman, had been beaten by police.

News cameras recorded the scenes on Saturday as police bundled men and wailing women on to a chartered cargo aircraft. Eight policemen overpowered one man and carried him on board. Another was carried kicking and struggling with a baby in his arms. Another was led up the ramp in handcuffs.

A few, including women, stripped to their underwear to protest against their deportation. But the women were wrapped in blankets, partly to cover them and partly to prevent them struggling as they were carried on to the aircraft. One woman appeared to be unconscious as she was carried to the plane.

Clinton Leeks, the Hong Kong government refugee co-ordinator, said the operation had been a success and



Behind bars: two young Vietnamese girls, among the 59 people deported from Hong Kong on Saturday, peering through a window at a transit centre in Hanoi

that two women had been given Valium, he said any sedation would have been given by a doctor "absolutely, emphatically clearly, for medical reasons" and not for security reasons.

Hong Kong television last night broadcast claims by deportees filmed in a reception centre in Hanoi. They said they had been kicked, beaten and put under sedation against their will.

Korea's nuclear threat alarms US

BY MARTIN FLETCHER IN WASHINGTON AND DAVID WATTS

RICHARD Cheney, the American defence secretary, gave a warning at the weekend that Third World countries with aggressive nuclear ambitions, such as North Korea, could benefit from the breakup of the Soviet Union by acquiring nuclear scientists, weapons and equipment.

The disintegrating Soviet Union had 30,000 nuclear warheads, he said. "The thing I'm really concerned about would be the possibility ... that that will result in dissemination of knowledge about weapons of mass destruction, nuclear weapons, in the form of individuals who've got technical expertise going to work for other countries and possibly even the flow of some of those weapons themselves to third parties," he added.

The Soviet Union's economic deterioration "enhances the possibility that the kind of chaotic situation may develop where there'll be an even greater incentive for people to allow the spread of that capability than has been true before," Mr Cheney said, for the first time expressing the administration's anxiety.

North Korea yesterday negated the latest attempt to defuse the nuclear impasse on the Korean peninsula. Rejecting the declaration late last week that South Korea would no longer countenance nuclear weapons on its soil, Pyongyang described the offer as "insignificant" and portrayed President Roh of South Korea as a "servant" of the United States and the gesture as a trick to attract public attention.

Mr Roh said on television

on Friday: "The Republic of Korea will use nuclear energy solely for peaceful purposes, and will not manufacture, possess, store, deploy or use nuclear weapons. Now there can be no reason or justification for North Korea to develop nuclear weapons or evade international inspection of its facilities."

China is also believed to have been trying to deflect President Kim Il Sung of North Korea from any intention he may have of trying one last desperate bid to unify the peninsula by force before he leaves the political scene. When he arrived for a visit last month, the Chinese welcome he was accorded was appropriately warm for the leader of one of the world's few remaining hardline communist governments. But when he left the atmosphere was distinctly cool, leading to speculation that there had been disagreement over nuclear weapons.

British test, page 1
Letter, page 17



Kim Il Sung: may yet try to unify Koreans by force

Filipinos brace for new storm

Ormoc — As victims of tropical storm Thelma, the Philippines' worst natural disaster, began to rebuild their shattered lives, a new tropical storm with winds of 115 mph threatened the country yesterday (Abby Tan writes).

Tropical storm Seth is expected to hit the main island of Luzon in the next few days. President Aquino visited Ormoc city, on the west coast of Leyte province in the central Philippines yesterday amid allegations that the government had connived at the logging which is partly blamed for the disastrous floods that accompanied the storm.

Shortly before Mrs Aquino arrived a few bodies which had been left unattended on the streets for days were taken away. Residents, cleared debris from their damaged homes, some now without roofs or trudging through two feet of mud to buy petrol and water. Long queues formed at market places for petroleum products but officials say there is no food shortage. The death toll has reached 5,400.

Joanna Pitman, page 16

Ceasefire troops fly to Cambodia

Phnom Penh — Two plane-loads of Australian troops arrived here yesterday to become the first United Nations ceasefire observers deployed on the ground in Cambodia. The mission is to monitor the fragile Cambodian truce (James Fringle writes).

The 40 Australian soldiers, wearing UN blue berets, arrived eight days later than scheduled because of disputes over whether an Australian or French officer would command them and whether the English or French language would be used. An Australian commander has been appointed and both languages will be used.

Zambians clash

Lusaka — Police prevented serious violence when hundreds of supporters of Kenneth Kaunda's United National Independence Party clashed outside their headquarters with members of the Movement for Multiparty Democracy as the defeated president emerged. (AFP)

Tonic kills 185

Delhi — The number of people killed by drinking a cheap herbal tonic laced with raw alcohol has risen to 185 in Delhi and may go as high as 215, the Press Trust of India said. Other victims have lost their sight or suffered kidney damage. Police have arrested 90 people and seized 67,000 bottles of the brew. (Reuters)

Ozone claim

McMurdoo Sound — A hole in the ozone which appears in the Antarctic in the southern spring is deepening, and similar holes may be found soon in non-polar regions, according to international scientists, who claim that more than half the ozone over Antarctica disappears between October and December. (Reuters)

Beatles auction

Atlanta — An acoustic guitar used by John Lennon is expected to fetch up to \$300,000 (£170,000) in an auction of Beatles artefacts in Atlanta next weekend. Other items include a harmonica Lennon used in recording the group's first album, a lighter, letters, autographed photographs and gold records. (AP)

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PEKING NOTEBOOK by Catherine Sampson

China liberates cabbages

Peking's pedestrians are facing their annual obstacle course as the pavements disappear under piles of cabbage several feet high. In a city where families buy more than 600lb of leafy greens at once, the winter cabbage season brings excitement on a scale rarely observed in connection with vegetables.

The *Peking Daily* is scoured by market-goers for news of their favourite vegetable. This year the paper was so carried away by the arrival of the cabbages that it compared their arrival in the market place to young brides meeting their in-laws for the first time.

For Chinese, the main attraction of the *dabaicai* (literally "big white cabbage"), is its extremely low price. But this year the humble cabbage, which until now has been at the

centre of the command economy, is the subject of a daring experiment with the free market. For the first time the official cabbage slogan is "free choice".

The good-hearted vegetables were so moved by the state's reform of the cabbage system, *Peking Daily* reported with straight face, that they had reacted by growing especially plump and succulent for their first foray into the free market.

A cartoon strip, *Peking People in New York*, is to become China's new soap opera. This moral tale about the evils of Western capitalism, only thinly disguised as fiction, is soon to graduate from a Peking newspaper to being broadcast on radio throughout the country.

The plot follows a Chinese couple as they venture into new lives in the United

States, everywhere meeting abuse and exploitation. As soon as they set foot on American soil, their luggage is stolen. The story progresses through drug abuse, gambling and bankruptcy, and reaches a climax with the kidnapping and murder of their daughter.

The strip has a dual purpose. In part it is to make people hesitate before trying to leave China. But it is also a fairly heavy-handed attempt to make people question the advantages of capitalist society and to appreciate the certainties of life in China, where housing, medical care and education are provided almost free of charge, and work is guaranteed for life.

Peking People in New York is full of such memorable quotes as "I heard there is little sympathy in this country. Now I see it."

● 重点难点

◎ 游龍山記

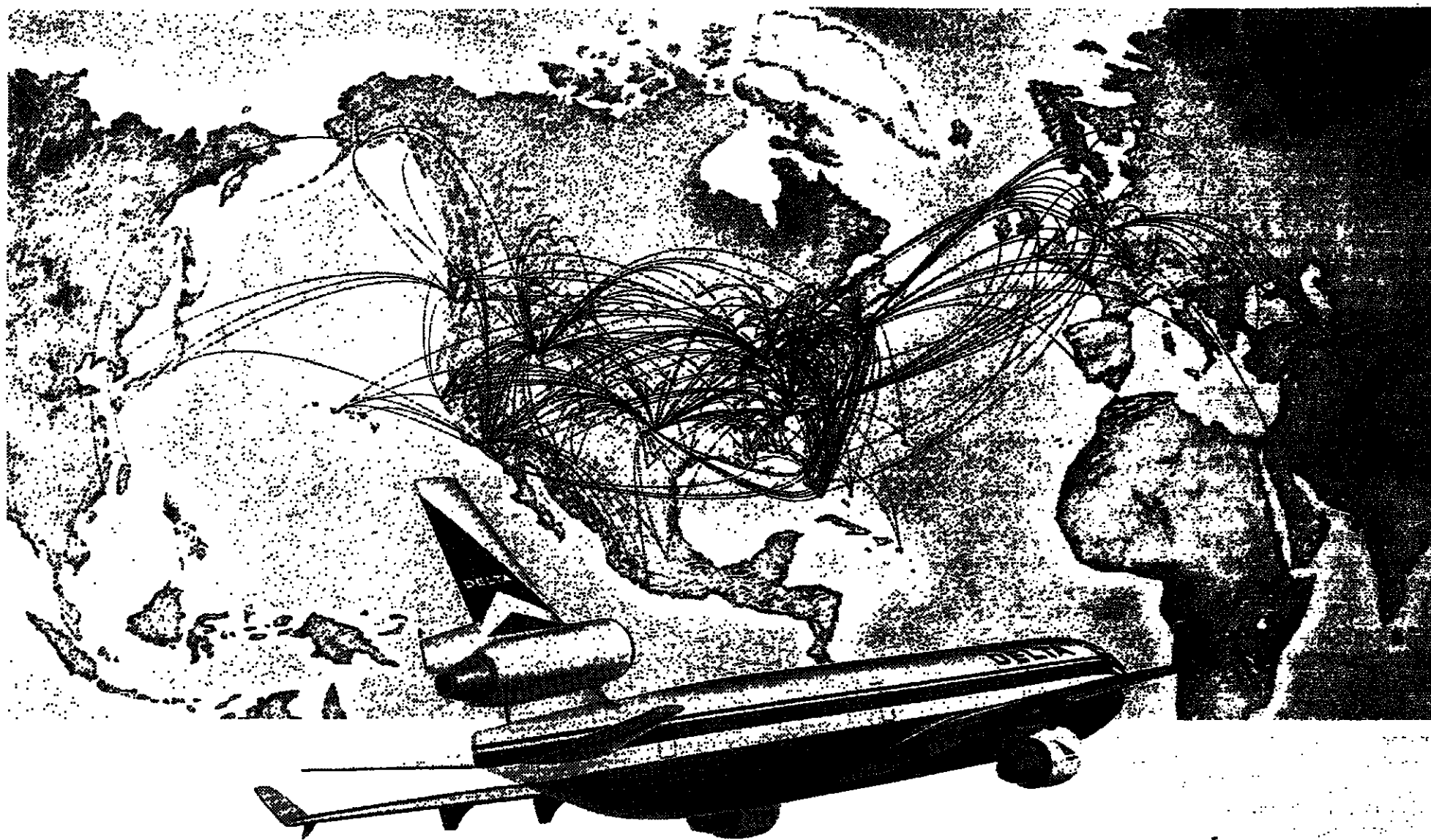
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From left, Delta Flight Attendant Bonita Caringola, First Officer Timothy Therrell, Captain Larry Bacon and Flight Attendant Stephanie Allen.

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Tomb blast sets off Managua gun battle

From DORALISA PILARTE OF ASSOCIATED PRESS IN MANAGUA

A BOMB attack at the tomb of a Sandinista hero provoked a rampage by his followers in which the left-wing militants fought a gun battle with former Contra rebels in Managua and sacked the city hall. An uneasy calm later settled over the city.

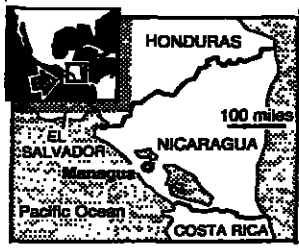
Daniel Ortega, the former Nicaraguan president and leader of the Sandinista party, told a frenzied crowd that government right-wingers were "sowing discord, violence and instability" and gave a warning that the violence could increase. "They are provoking a coup d'état, introducing laws where they try to interpret the constitution of the republic," Señor Ortega declared. "In the case of a coup d'état, the people of Nicaragua would immediately rise up."

Señor Ortega was resoundingly defeated in a democratic election by Violeta Chamorro, who took over as president in April 1990. But her government has come under fire from the left for austerity measures intended to revive Nicaragua's almost moribund economy.

The outbreak of violence on Saturday was the biggest so far. The clashes have arisen over such government campaigns as an attempt to privatise state farming co-operatives established under Sandinista rule.

Señor Ortega told the crowd of several thousand in Managua: "We have to organise ourselves more and better... and be ready [if the national assembly passes laws that are contrary to Sandinista interests]."

The violence began early on



Saturday when an explosion ripped away a corner of the mausoleum of Carlos Fonseca, founder of the Sandinista Front, who died while fighting the forces of the dictator Anastasio Somoza in 1976. The explosion came just hours after the Sandinista Front had finished commemorating the 15th anniversary of Fonseca's death with a gathering of thousands of sympathisers at the tomb.

Sandinistas blamed Arnoldo Aleman, the right-wing mayor of Managua, partly because of recent bitter feuding between him and Señor Ortega. But Virgilio Godoy, the vice-president, blamed Señor Ortega, implying that it was an excuse to engage in violence. "The Sandinistas have the money and the bombs to do it," he told a pro-government radio station.

Señor Ortega accused Señor Godoy, Señor Aleman and Alfredo Cesar, president of the national assembly, of creating instability by bringing back Somoza's right-wing, anti-Sandinista attitudes. Somoza was ousted in 1979.

Carlos Hurtado, the interior minister, said in a brief broadcast that security for government officials and legislators was being increased. He asked

the Sandinista People's Army to help patrol the streets of Managua. He also said police were setting up roadblocks throughout the city to search cars for weapons.

More than 18 months after Señora Chamorro became president, her government remains locked in conflict with the Sandinistas, whose ten-year rule was characterised by class conflict, economic decline and war with the American-backed Contra rebels. In Matagalpa, 80 miles northeast of Managua, two government supporters were dragged out of their cars and beaten by Sandinista crowds who put up barricades and set tyres on fire.

The United Nations said men in military uniforms fired AK47 rifles and threw a grenade at a UN vehicle in Esteli on Saturday. The town is 100 miles north of Managua. A brief statement did not mention injuries.

A group of about 20 armed men in the town destroyed Radio La Corporación, which is owned by opponents of the Sandinistas and is known for its right-wing views.



Sandinista fury: an impassioned speaker addresses a protesting crowd in Managua as Sandinista supporters hold up a portrait of Carlos Fonseca, the Sandinista Front's founder, whose tomb was damaged by the bomb explosion

Haitians block Aristide mission

From ALAN TOMLINSON IN MIAMI

AN INTERNATIONAL mission seeking to restore to power Jean-Bertrand Aristide, the ousted president of Haiti, halted its journey to Port-au-Prince at the weekend after a hostile crowd at the airport.

The 14-member delegation from the Organisation of American States (OAS) said it would continue the trip when security could be guaranteed. Its mission had been delayed for several days by tensions in Haiti over the effects of an economic boycott called by the OAS after a diplomatic mission was turned away by unruly soldiers.

The leaders of the military coup which toppled and exiled Fr Aristide six weeks ago, continued to defy international pressure by issuing a warrant for his arrest.

Reports from Haiti said the weekend protest had been organised by the army and provisional government. The reports said businessmen were seen giving money to participants.

Jericho welcomes delegates

From RICHARD BEESTON IN JERICHO

THOUSANDS of Palestinians waving olive branches and flowers yesterday gave the Palestinian delegation at last week's Madrid peace talks a rapturous welcome home. It made a stark contrast to the mood of hostility and pessimism that has characterised the occupied territories over the past four years of the intifada.

"I am overwhelmed. It's a grand homecoming," said Hanan Ashrawi, the delegation spokeswoman, who became a celebrity at Madrid when putting the Palestinian case. Two weeks ago the team was mainly unknown, but yesterday they were lauded as a convincing leadership who will have to negotiate with the Israelis to find a settlement for the West Bank and Gaza Strip. It is now home to 1.8 million Palestinians living under Israeli military rule.

The talks, which have to find a compromise between Palestinian demands for statehood and Israeli insistence on autonomy, are due to resume later this month once a venue has been agreed. Multilateral talks on regional issues are also due to open in Washington in three weeks. "After Madrid we have to start a new phase. We have to end the occupation and start looking at people as equal human beings," Mrs Ashrawi said.

However, Yossi Amichai, bureau chief to Yitzhak Shamir, the Israeli prime minister, said: "The Palestinian delegation apparently... think they are permitted to do anything and act like the leaders of an independent state. They should... take a more realistic view."



De Klerk: South Africa back in its rightful place

De Klerk arrives in Israel

From AP IN JERUSALEM

PRESIDENT de Klerk of South Africa said yesterday that his four-day visit to Israel signified his country's return to the international community.

He made the statement as he was greeted by President Herzog on the first visit to Israel by a South African leader since 1976. "We are here also as part of the return of South Africa to the international community, to our rightful place from which we have been excluded for so long," Mr De Klerk said.

He was accompanied by R.F. "Pik" Botha, his foreign minister, and leaders of South Africa's Jewish community. Mr Botha had talks with David Levy, his Israeli counterpart, about a proposed co-operation agreement.

● Moscow — The Soviet Union and South Africa have established diplomatic relations at consular level and are to discuss a possible visit to Moscow by Mr de Klerk.

Leading article, page 16

Taxman takes brothel to task

From REUTER IN CANBERRA

AUSTRALIAN tax authorities have told a brothel in South Australia that it must provide training for employees or face taxation penalties.

The requirement, revealed yesterday by the federal opposition, relates to a scheme which says employers who have an annual payroll of more than \$14,000 must spend a minimum of 1 per cent of that on training for their staff. "Naturally, all of us are wondering what sort of training programmes the Australian Taxation Office has in mind," Alexander Downer, the opposition trade spokesman, said in a

statement. Mr Downer released correspondence between the tax authorities and an Adelaide firm of accountants acting on behalf of the brothel, confirming that it has a requirement under the law to provide training for its workers.

"I do not doubt that there are some people working in this industry who are born with natural skills for the job," Mr Downer said. "Some forms of employment require extensive training and others do not," he added. Prostitution is illegal in South Australia and in most other states in the country.

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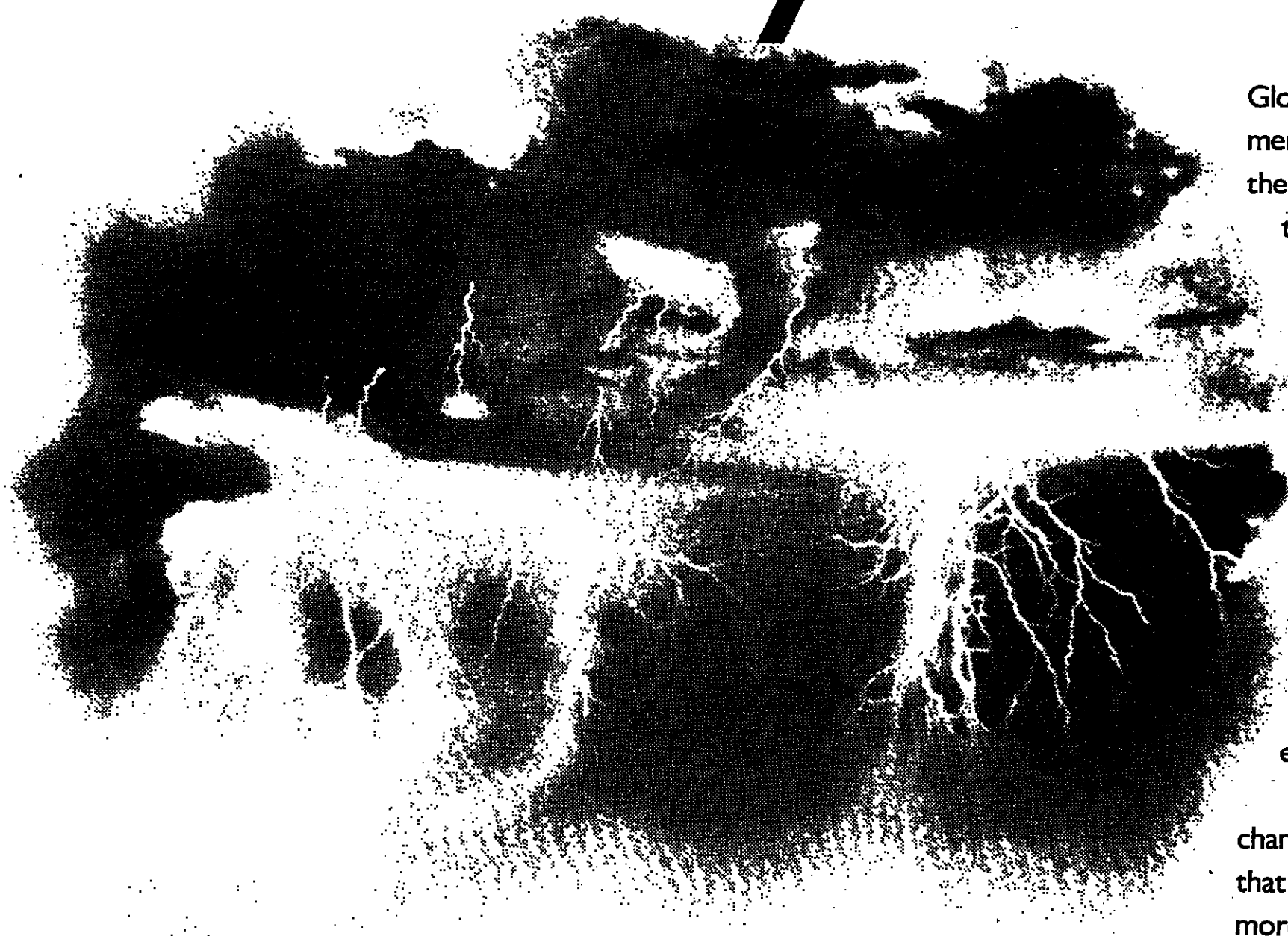


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None, you may think. In fact, each of us contributes to Global Warming in dozens of small ways.

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Human activity is pouring CO₂ and other greenhouse gases into the atmosphere at an unprecedented rate, which is likely to throw the world's climate out of balance.

Why should we worry about Global Warming? If it means longer, hotter summers and shorter winters, isn't it to be welcomed?

Unfortunately, not all of the effects are likely to be pleasant. If left unchecked Global Warming could change existing weather patterns across the world.

Areas now vulnerable to extreme weather conditions will be affected even more. Rising

sea levels will pose a serious threat to low-lying areas. The speed with which these changes will take place may mean species will be unable to cope and will die out altogether.

Faced with the possibility of such serious worldwide effects, what can be done to help?

The answer is, a very great deal.

The world's Governments are taking Global Warming very seriously. The UK Government is taking a leading role in negotiating the global agreement on climate change due to be signed during the Earth Summit in 1992.

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Obvious practical action includes things like insulating cavity walls, lagging the loft and pipes, draught-proofing doors and windows and buying modern energy-efficient appliances.

But there are also lots of simpler things like not overfilling the kettle - you only heat the water you actually need.

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France mourns Montand — singer, actor, legend and lover

The women of France have lost an idol who captured their hearts with effortless ease for more than four decades. John Phillips reports

HE WAS from Tuscany, the son of impoverished Italians who took him with them as a boy of six when they fled the Mussolini dictatorship and took refuge in Marseille. But Yves Montand won a special place in French hearts in the 45-year show business career that followed.

At the weekend France went into mourning for a man who embodied France as did Maurice Chevalier, who might have become President and who — not least — was envied by Frenchmen for his glamorous amours, from Simone Signoret (whom he married) to Marilyn Monroe (whom he did not).

The singer's last female companion, Carole Amiel, kept vigil next to his body at one of his Parisian homes on the fashionable Boulevard St Germain and hundreds of fans gathered outside.

Among those at the bedside when he died on Saturday after a heart attack was

Catherine Allegret, the daughter of his late actress wife, Simone Signoret, his greatest love, with whom he co-starred in a 1954 stage production of *The Crucible* by Arthur Miller.

Thousands of grief-stricken fans are expected to attend the funeral that will be held at the Père Lachaise cemetery on Wednesday. At Aubert-Audouillet, some 50 miles north west of Paris where Montand had maintained a country residence since 1955, the town's officials yesterday lowered the French flag to half-mast.

President Mitterrand said in a message of condolence to Mme Amiel: "I learn with very strong emotion of the sudden death of Yves Montand. With him the voice of a great artist has been extinguished and the talent of an actor who went into the history of show business of our epoch has disappeared."

The headline Communist leader, Georges Marchais,



Montand in many faces: from left, happy in London; reflective in Paris; as Jean Florette, one of his greatest roles; and this year, in a controversial television programme on defence

also joined in the chorus of tears although Montand and Signoret ended their long flirtation with Moscow in 1968 after the Soviet invasion of Czechoslovakia. Thereafter Montand confined his political activity to support for human rights

activists in countries such as Greece, Argentina, Poland and Spain. In 1987 there was unfounded speculation, which he did nothing to dispel, that he might follow the example of Ronald Reagan and run in France's 1988 presidential election.

The range of Montand's performance as actor and singer gave him an illustrious place in French show business history. His romantic escapades with Edith Piaf, his first great love who launched him at the Moulin Rouge music hall, and Mari-

lyn Monroe, with whom he made *Let's Make Love*, also endeared him to Parisians. Jean-Jacques Beineix, the director of the as yet unnamed film in which Montand was acting when he was taken ill on Friday night on the set in a forest north of

Paris, said the movie will be released posthumously. "I can't bring myself to believe that I will never see him again and that he will not see the film," M Beineix said. Since his death French radio stations have been broadcasting incessantly

such Montand classics as *Batling Joe*, a sad number about a washed up boxer, and *Les Bijoux*, a song barely whispered about an exotic night of love.

Obituary, page 18

Caucasus rebels defy Yeltsin

From MARY DEJEVSKY IN MOSCOW

BORIS Yeltsin, the Russian leader, yesterday was facing his severest test since the anti-Gorbachev coup in August, as his declared state of emergency in the north Caucasus republic of Chechno-Ingushkaya provoked open rebellion and threatened to renew his conflict with President Gorbachev.

Thousands of people, many of them armed, swarmed into the capital of the autonomous republic, Grozny, in answer to a call from its leaders to make the territory "an impenetrable fortress". All main roads were reported blocked by troops and civilians loyal to the rebels. The north Caucasus railway network was said to be paralysed. Late yesterday the Tass news agency reported that the railway blockade had been lifted, but the report could not be confirmed.

Mr Yeltsin's decree introducing the state of emergency, made on Friday, provoked a storm in the Russian parliament. Mr Yeltsin is in conflict with a

local leader, Djokhar Dudayev, who has led a campaign for independence for the republic. By evening, up to 1,000 interior ministry troops sent by Mr Yeltsin to enforce his decree were still surrounded by armed rebel forces at the military airfield where they had arrived early on Saturday, and 150 troops were trapped in an interior ministry building in Grozny by demonstrators, many of them armed. Mr Yeltsin asked more than a month ago for all interior ministry forces on Russian soil to be transferred to Russian jurisdiction, but this has not happened — leaving the Russian leadership unable to impose a state of emergency anywhere. Aleksandr Rutskoi, Mr Yeltsin's deputy, told the Russian parliament yesterday that a division of interior ministry troops was waiting in the city of Vladikavkaz for possible deployment in Chechno-Ingushkaya, but could not set out without orders from the Viktor Barannikov, the Soviet interior minister.

Mr Barannikov said that the troops were a reserve in case of violence in Chechno-Ingushkaya and were not needed now. He said all central leaders, "the interior and defence ministers, the chairman of the KGB and the USSR president" were against the use of troops. Vakha Ibragimov, the interior minister of Chechno-Ingushkaya appointed by Mr Yeltsin, resigned because he disagreed with Russian government policy towards the territory.



Russian liberal movement splits

From BRUCE CLARK IN MOSCOW

DEMOCRATIC Russia, the mass movement that propelled Boris Yeltsin to power, cracked unceremoniously in two yesterday, despite a warning from one of its founders that liberals must prepare to fight off a growing challenge from fascism.

Three political groups, including the largest of the pro-Yeltsin parties, staged a noisy walkout from the democratic movement's annual conference in a Moscow cinema, to cries of "disgrace" and slow handclapping. The split will weaken Russia's liberal camp at a time when it faces the challenge of reconciling public opinion to Mr Yeltsin's economic reforms and to the acute hardship they are bound to engender in the short term. With its initial goals — devolution of power from the central Soviet authorities to the republics, and the ousting of the Communist party — achieved, support for radical economic change is one of the movement's remaining *raison d'être*.

On Saturday, Gavriil Popov, the mayor of Moscow, who helped create the democratic movement just over a year ago, told the conference bluntly that unless social conditions improved, liberal forces would be rejected by public opinion just as firmly as the communists had been. "We should not overestimate our influence on the people," said Mr Popov, an economics

professor and mastermind of many of the huge street rallies that helped drive the communists from office. "If they do not see changes, they will abandon us and look for a third force... the chauvinist, fascist forces which are already in existence."

The issue of what some would call chauvinism, and others the legitimate defence of ethnic Russian rights, was one of the main catalysts for yesterday's walkout. The three groups who left the conference, and later announced that they were founding a new political movement, accused the movement's leadership of neglecting the interests of millions of Russian speakers outside the republic. Mikhail Astafyev, leader of a party based on the pre-revolutionary cadets, said Russians faced disenfranchisement in Latvia and persecution in Ukraine.

The dissenters — the Democratic party of Russia, the biggest of the three dissenting groups, the cadets and the Russian Christian Democratic Movement — directed much of their venom at Professor Yuri Afanasyev, who chaired most of the conference. While he says the 16 "autonomous republics" within the Russian Federation should be allowed to secede, the three dissenting groups support the idea of a "single, indivisible Russia".

Diary, page 16

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Major tries to bridge gaps between Britain and Germany

AS JOHN Major and Helmut Kohl, the chancellor of Germany, sat down in Bonn last night to bargain over the European Community's Maastricht treaty, a problem known as "Kohl's linkage" loomed large between them.

"Linkage" is the diplomatic shorthand for the chancellor's insistence that the EC's political and monetary union negotiations must be completed together. Ever since Herr Kohl conceded a French demand for closer economic and monetary integration in Europe, he has always insisted that "political union" should be agreed simultaneously. That deal was struck by Herr Kohl and President Mitterrand of France in April last year. Britain has struggled throughout this year's political and monetary negotiations because Margaret Thatcher had nothing to do with the original Franco-German agreement and because Britain has

Britain and Germany are still on opposing sides in four key areas which are likely to hamper the treaty talks at Maastricht, George Brock writes

little real wish for either monetary or political union.

Both France and Germany were supposed to give up something. Germany would concede a measure of French influence on the mark while France would creep closer to federal political union and swallow its longstanding objections to giving the European parliament more clout. But hard bargaining at the treaty conferences throughout this year has upset this neat swap.

The monetary union treaty has been written on German terms: monetary rigour takes precedence over economic integration and the European central bank is designed to be as independent as the Ger-

man Bundesbank. Although the rows over the single currency are not over the shape of the monetary treaty is settled. Meanwhile, the political union talks have hit snag after snag, with little real consensus. The German government is left tying together two sets of talks going at different speeds.

This strained "linkage" means that political union has slowed down and ambitions will have to be scaled down further for a combined treaty to be agreed at Maastricht. Although there are five outstanding problems which could ruin the talks which open four weeks from today, there are strong signs that federalist ambitions will have

to be diluted to clinch a political union deal that will preserve the agreement over monetary union. Both the German and Italian foreign ministries have been signalling that the political union treaty may simply lay the groundwork for yet another attempt to clinch a federal Europe in the mid-1990s.

If those hints are accurate indicators of their leaders' likely stance at Maastricht, then Mr Major may be presented with a treaty he can sign. But for the time being Britain and Germany are on opposing sides on four key issues. Germany, faced with a flood of immigrants and refugees from Eastern Europe, wants the problems of asylum and immigration dealt with in Brussels. Britain is happy to expand the scope of co-operation between governments, but wants immigration kept out of the hands of the EC commission or court.

Germany is in the French-led majority which wants majority voting used to settle common EC foreign policies. Germany has signed a joint statement on the future of European defence with France which is ambiguous about how an EC army might fit with the existing Nato alliance. Lastly, Germany has swallowed its doubts about the costs of allowing the EC to set minimum rules for social and employment laws and lines up with the states wanting to build new social powers into the treaty. Only Britain resists the change.

The EC's foreign ministers meet for two days this week in the Dutch coastal resort of Noordwijk to debate a new draft of the political union treaty prepared by the Dutch government which holds the rotating EC presidency. One issue they may solve is the question of new powers for the European parliament.

Draft rejected, page 1

| ISSUE | UK | GERMANY |
|----------------------------|---|---|
| Immigration | Whole subject should be decided by inter-governmental co-operation outside EC system, opposed to Dutch proposal on EC control of visas and short-term visitors. | Wants immigration policy run by EC. Thinks present Dutch proposals for political union treaty too weak. |
| Foreign policy and defence | Supports long-term EC defence policy compatible with Nato. Opposes majority voting in foreign policy. | Supports majority voting in foreign policy. Formally linked to French scheme for European defence policy to rival Nato but uneasy and ambivalent. |
| Social | Opposed to extension of EC powers. | Supports extension of EC powers. Slightly uneasy about some possible costs for employers. |
| Police | Opposed to any new EC powers but eager to expand cooperation. | Wants European police force for cross-border crime detection. |
| European Parliament | Opposed to large increases in legislative power but more relaxed about greater scrutiny powers. | Wants parliament to become true European legislature calling EC institutions to account. |
| Europe | Mostly content with present treaty draft. | Complaining in public about general opt-out but likely to accept it. |

Serbia changes mind on intervention

Belgrade calls for UN peacekeeping force

By ANNE McELVOY AND DESSA TREVISAN

THE CALL at the weekend by Serbian members of Yugoslavia's residual federal presidency for a United Nations peacekeeping force represents a volte-face by Serbia, which had previously dismissed any such intervention as interference in Yugoslavia's internal affairs.

Croatia's foreign minister, Zvonimir Srpacovic, also gave the call a cautious welcome, saying Zagreb had "repeatedly sought the deployment of international forces" in Yugoslavia. But the fact that Belgrade and Zagreb are in harmony has aroused suspicion that the two sides are talking about different things.

Serbia's new position reflects fears in Belgrade that the sanctions approved last week by both the EC and US herald an international swing against the preservation of the federation.

There are also reports that the Serbian-dominated federal army may be running out of funds and men even as its pounds Dubrovnik, Vukovar and other Croatian towns, and would therefore welcome a respite.

The wording of the Belgrade statement would imply that Serbia intends UN troops to be stationed along the present front lines. These are now in effect the borders of Greater

Serbia, extending well into Croatian territory. The presence of foreign — that is, UN — troops along these frontiers would no doubt be intended by Belgrade to serve as a confirmation that Greater Serbia is accepted as a geographical entity by the world.

Branko Salaj, the Croatian information minister, insisted yesterday that Zagreb would not accept a deployment on these lines and that a UN force could only operate along the official Croatian border. He described the Serbian members of the rump federal presidency in Belgrade as "a bunch of usurpers". Croatian approval of the proposal would thus depend on the army pulling back to pre-war positions.

Zagreb yesterday extended the twice-ignored deadline for the federal troops to leave the republic to Christmas Day.

As the Serbian dominated federal army intensified attacks across Croatia, an army general accepted the idea of UN intervention but said the army had sufficient reserve to launch a total war and "to finish it in a short time".

General Nikola Uzelac, the commander of the Basja Luka Corps operating in Slavonia, said that only a few thousand UN troops would be necessary. He said the federal army fully supported the presidency's proposal.

Only recently, federal army spokesmen were rejecting any idea of a peacekeeping force in Yugoslavia, warning that any such attempt would be regarded as an aggression and answered with force. Now, however, the army has changed its tune.

General Uzelac denied that the army was running short of funds. Last week however the federal army demanded an additional 24,000 million dinar, the equivalent of (£700m) to cover extra expenditure due to the war. Some reports suggest the army has taken to printing its own money.

Yugoslav generals who have been accused of not providing sufficient protection to the Serbian minorities in Croatia complain that Serbs have been dodging the call up and that reservists who are called up often flee from the battle zone.

In several towns in Vojvodina, the northern Serbian region, there were anti war demonstrations yesterday.

UN troops requested, page 1
Leading article, page 17

Dubrovnik shelled from close range

FROM REUTERS IN DUBROVNIK

YUGOSLAVIA'S federal army and navy fired from close range on Dubrovnik's old town yesterday in a relentless bombardment of Croatian military positions, residential areas and hotels.

The Belvedere, one of the Adriatic port's most exclusive hotels, was set ablaze by bombardment from two federal gunboats firing from a range of only 300 yards. Zeljko Sikic, president of the city council, told Croatian radio that the barrage was so intense that local officials and European Community observers were unable to travel from the port to the nearby town of Cavtat for talks with army commanders. He appealed to federal forces for a ceasefire and promised that Croatian militia units would also stop fighting.

Radio Dubrovnik said that at least 11 people, including a civilian aged 70, were killed in yesterday's battles. Plumes of smoke rose from the western Pile gate and near the cathedral in the medieval fortress city. The UNESCO flag signifying World Heritage protection for the resort was silhouetted against the black smoke.

The radio said the town's 14th-century Minčeta tower and an elementary school had been hit. Black smoke billowed over the eastern and western areas of the city and flames licked up from windows of the top floors of the Belvedere hotel, where a Croatian flag hung defiantly.

News of a general mobilisation call ordered by Zagreb, the Croatian capital, against the Serb-led federal army, was greeted with indifference and cynicism by most people.

"What are we to do?" one young man in the city said. "We have only 500 to 1,000 rifles. Do they want us to shoot at gunboats and tanks with pistols?"

Zagreb also announced partial censorship of news reporting from Croatia. The government said this was "to prevent strategic military or economic information being revealed".

In the morning bombardment, at least seven explosions a minute shook the city and sent terrifying booms and echoes through the area. A sniper fired at the entrance of the Argentina hotel from a range of 500 yards, wounding three people shortly after Sara Marojica, the honorary British consul in Dubrovnik, crawled to the balcony under fire to hoist a Union Jack. The circular gold-star flag of the EC already flies from the hotel.

Pero Poljanec, the mayor of Dubrovnik, denied to journalists that the situation was critical. "People are speaking out of fear," he said. But in a telephone call to a colleague, he said: "The situation is terrible. Terrible."

(This story was written by Andrej Gistunicki, a Reuters correspondent, on behalf of a pool of Western correspondents in Dubrovnik)



Election race: David Duke, a Republican challenger for the governorship of the southern United States state of Louisiana, makes a political point energetically during a campaign speech at a rodeo in Franklin, Louisiana. Mr Duke is running against Edwin Edwards, a former Democratic governor, in a run-off election that will be held next Saturday and as the candidates go into the last week of campaigning the election race has been marked by demonstrations by people protesting against what are claimed to be extreme right-wing policies.

Everything must go, but Lenin

FROM MARTIN FLETCHER IN WASHINGTON

ON ABC television's prime time evening news last week, Peter Jennings, the anchorman, announced that the Soviet Union was trying to sell the embalmed body of Lenin for \$15 million (£8.5 million).

In Moscow, Viktor Barannikov, the internal affairs minister and putative vendor, denounced the report as a "serious provocation" and "brazen lie". The next night, Mr Jennings apologised humbly to viewers, saying he was the victim of a practical joke. ABC had seen a spoof story in a magazine supplement and believed it to be true. "Given the chaos in the

Soviet Union, even this was believable," he explained.

Mr Jennings had a point. The collapse of the Soviet Union is seen in absolute terms by the American media, and nothing emerging from that country is considered beyond the bounds of credibility. Only yesterday, for example, *The New York Times* reported that the Soviet Union was trying to sell deep underground nuclear explosions for civil uses. That report was in turn repeated by American experts say that in a desperate scramble for hard currency and, perhaps, a little international recognition

the Soviet Union is offering the West everything from space stations, rocket engines and plutonium isotopes to satellites, nuclear reactors and the results of top-secret experiments in space, nuclear science and biotechnology.

"It's the yard sale at the end of history," said Russell Seitz of Harvard University's Olin Institute for Strategic Studies. "I am struck by the pendency nature of this phenomenon. It's a farago of stuff coming from all over the country and from every scientific endeavour and out of places the existence of which was not even known to us."

The Freedom party, whose campaign called for an immediate stop to immigration into Austria, has faced charges of fanning xenophobia in the Austrian capital, of whose 1.5 million people more than 250,000 are foreigners. "This is a victory especially for the Viennese who have shown with this vote that they are tired of the old politics of the two parties," Holger Bauer, a Freedom party spokesman, told Austrian radio. He denied that the party had exploited the issue of foreigners in Vienna.

The Freedom party in calling for a ban on immigration was articulating fears among many citizens for their jobs and of rising crime. Even the socialists called for limitations on the influx of foreigners, while the conservatives proposed a system of quotas.

Vienna voters swing to right

FROM BRENDA FOWLER IN VIENNA

THE Social Democratic party appeared set to win provincial elections to Vienna's city council yesterday, preliminary, unofficial results showed.

With 38 per cent of the vote counted, the ruling social democrats were leading with 47.3 per cent of the vote. But the far-right Freedom party appeared to have overtaken the conservative People's party, traditionally Austria's second strongest party.

The preliminary results showed the Freedom party leading the People's party by 23 per cent to 17.9 per cent. The loss could seriously weaken Austria's federal government coalition of the Social Democratic and People's parties, which has already been shaken by similar losses in two earlier provincial elections this autumn. In fourth place with 9.2 per cent of the vote was Vienna's small Green party, which will be represented in the 100-seat city council for the first time.

The big winner appears to be the Freedom Party, led by Jörg Haider, which appears to have won 13.3 per cent more votes than in the last city elections in 1987. Votes came to the Freedom party from both the social democrats, who lost 7.6 per cent of the vote compared with 1987, and the People's party, which lost 10.5 per cent.

It is the first time since 1945 that the social democrats have failed to win an absolute majority in percentage, although because of the formula for mandate distribution, the party will probably hold onto its absolute majority of seats.

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Germans protest over race attacks

Bonn — Tens of thousands of demonstrators took to the streets of more than 100 cities throughout Germany at the weekend to protest against the extreme right-wing skinheads responsible for a wave of attacks against foreigners (lan Murray writes).

More than 50,000 people marched through Berlin with banners proclaiming "Live with one another — down with xenophobia and violence". Most of the demonstrations passed off peacefully, although there were clashes in Halle involving around 500 neo-nazis from as far afield as Switzerland, Austria and Hamburg, who had called a rally to mark the anniversary of Kristallnacht, the Nazi-inspired pogrom in 1938. More than 100 arrests were made.

Buffer agreed

Moscow — Armenia and Azerbaijan have agreed to create a six-mile buffer zone along their common border in an attempt to end their four-year conflict, the unofficial Interfax news agency reported. The agreement was reached at a meeting in Moscow under the chairmanship of President Gorbachev. (AFP)

Mengistu call

Addis Ababa — An estimated 100,000 Ethiopians demonstrated in central Addis Ababa, demanding that Mengistu Haile Mariam, the former dictator now in exile in Zimbabwe, be returned to face trial. Lieutenant-Colonel Mengistu fled before revolutionary forces took the capital last May. (Reuters)

Out of Africa

Zermatt — The Matterhorn is of African origin, according to a scientific study of Alpine sub-strata led by Peter Lehner, a geologist. About 100 million years ago, part of the African plate covered the European plate, and the Cervin, or Matterhorn, region of the Swiss Alps is a residue of the African plate. (AFP)

Kurds attacked

Pir Dawud — Iraqi troops attacked Kurdish peshmerga guerrilla lines with mortars, rifles and machine guns at the ruined village of Pir Dawud, south of the Kurdish city of Arbil. The soldiers had ordered the peshmerga to withdraw towards Arbil or face attack. Three Kurds were wounded. (Reuters)

Iceberg melts

Port Stanley — A giant iceberg adrift southeast of the Falkland Islands in the main South Atlantic shipping lanes has begun to break up in warm waters and will pose a hazard to shipping, meteorologists said. The iceberg, named A24, has thousands of penguins and measures 55 miles by 580 miles. (Reuters)

Party for a rake

Paris — France threw a 24-hour party at the weekend for its favourite wayward son, Arthur Rimbaud, the 19th century symbolist poet, who for many is the unofficial patron saint of bohemian artists. Rimbaud died 100 years ago, aged 37, after a life devoted to adventure and debauchery. (AFP)

Home comforts

Frankfurt — A 36-year-old American museum director was arrested after police investigating a strange smell found 50 weapons in his apartment, a crocodile in his bathtub and a python in his closet. (Reuters)

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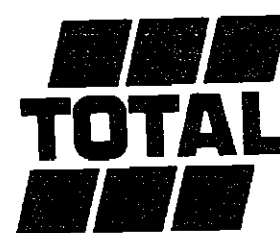
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LONDON FILM FESTIVAL

The lion, the watch and the Welshman

Historical curios, Parisian frolics, Celtic weirdness and gentle comedies are among the amusements that Geoff Brown suggests should be sought out alongside the more heavyweight offerings of the continuing 1991 festival

When Arch Oboler's *Bwana Devil* made its cinema debut in 1953 — the first dramatic feature to use 3-D imagery — the publicity screamed: "They've taken the screen away. You don't see pictures, you see real life! A lion in your lap! A lover in your arms!" Today, in the London Film Festival's tribute to Oboler, self-styled "master of the unusual" who died in 1987, *Bwana* comes out of its cage. Man-eating lions annihilate workers building the first railway in British East Africa. Robert Stack thrusts out his chin, puckers his lips at Barbara Britton and faces certain death armed with terrible dialogue and a jammed gun.

This is not exactly Andrei Tarkovsky. But all praise to the festival for lightening our load with such curios: even the most saintly cinemagoer needs a break from Holocaust musings, Turkish *Angst* and the misery of Indian child labour.

The new films themselves boast their oddities. Take Ben Lewin's Anglo-French bon-bon *The Favour, the Watch and the Very Big Fish* (showing on November 17): the title alone is whimsical enough, though everything can be accounted for somewhere. The favour emerges when Bob Hoskins — a Parisian photographer of religious tableaux — stands in for an actor friend dubbing a pornographic film and begins a cockeyed romance with Natasha Richardson. The watch and big fish make fleeting appearances; the main thrust of the plot — derived from Marcel Aymé's story *Rue Saint Sulpice* — concerns Hoskins's problems with his temperamental model

for Christ (Jeff Goldblum, notching up another offbeat European role). Elsewhere, the British selection leans heavily — and, given the industry's shrivelled state, inevitably — on television. Last Wednesday's opening film, *Enchanted April*, is destined for the BBC's *Screen Two* slot. This period comedy about the English abroad may not be director Mike Newell's usual fancy, but he dances into Merchant/Ivory territory with nimble feet. The cast is a Rolls-Royce affair: Miranda Richardson and Josie Lawrence as two ladies who try to escape dull London lives by renting an Italian villa; Joan Plowright, wonderfully funny as an imperious widow. The film opens commercially at the end of the month.

As with Bergman, there are subtitles: this is a Welsh-language production, properly called *Un Nos Ola Llawd*, and based on a novel by Caradog Prichard. For English audiences, the mysterious sounds only add to the film's strange, poetic power. Betsan Llwyd gives a heartfelt performance as a woman drifting into religious paranoia; but the core of the film rests with young Tudor Roberts, anguish stamped across his solemn face as the boy caught in the wake of his mother's mania. In the hands of Emlyn and his cameraman Ashley Rowe, the scenery — mountains, slate quarries, moonlight, rain — weaves its own bleak spell. *One Full Moon* is being screened on November 17; six other

performances follow at the National Film Theatre after the festival. Elsewhere, the British selection leans heavily — and, given the industry's shrivelled state, inevitably — on television. Last Wednesday's opening film, *Enchanted April*, is destined for the BBC's *Screen Two* slot. This period comedy about the English abroad may not be director Mike Newell's usual fancy, but he dances into Merchant/Ivory territory with nimble feet. The cast is a Rolls-Royce affair: Miranda Richardson and Josie Lawrence as two ladies who try to escape dull London lives by renting an Italian villa; Joan Plowright, wonderfully funny as an imperious widow. The film opens commercially at the end of the month.

las, no public run seems destined for Spotswood (November 20): this Australian comedy has been acquired for home viewing by the BBC. Do not expect raucous belly-laughs. Director Mark Joffe aims instead for the warm-hearted chuckle with his story of an outcasted moccasin factory — makers of the "toughest-wearing moccasin in the southern hemisphere" — falling under an efficiency expert's gimlet eye. (Students of British comedy may be reminded of *The Battle of the Sexes*, made by former Ealing staff in 1959.)

Anthony Hopkins takes time off from his psychopaths to play the new broom struggling to bring discipline to a lax but friendly workforce. There are no surprises, but Joffe and his actors create such lively portrayals of the hobby-



Handing out clues? Natasha Richardson and Jeff Goldblum in *The Favour, the Watch and the Very Big Fish*

crazed factory staff that there is never time to get bored. In an age when much screen comedy screams and shouts, *Spotswood* displays a gentle touch.

Seekers after high-quality German cinema have found lean pickings in recent years. *The Serbian Girl* (November 17) brings fresh hope, along with a talented new director, Peter Schr. His plot is simple: a girl from a Yugoslav village ventures abroad, seeking a new life with her German boyfriend.

In crisp, elliptical images, beautifully photographed by Dietrich Lohmann,

Schr captures the human comedy of life on the road. The girl travels by coach, train and a lorry laden with sheep. Up and down Germany, she is robbed, hoodwinked and manhandled by a string of fairly seedy citizens, but her naivety saves her from fear and misfortune. Mirjana Jokovic, a sweetly expressive young Yugoslav actress, keeps a strong grip on the heroine's many moods. This is just the kind of film a festival like London exists for: a tasty plum that might otherwise slip away unseen. The festival's most rarefied delicacy

must, however, be *Limite* (repeated on November 14): a Brazilian avant-garde psycho-drama, completed in 1929, much praised by Eisenstein, and brought back to public view after extensive restoration work in the Seventies. The director, Mario Peixoto, was only 19 when he made this audacious reverie featuring three tortured souls drifting at sea to a soundtrack of Satie, Ravel and friends; he never completed another film.

● The London Film Festival continues at various central venues until November 21 (Information: 071-928 3232).

DANCE

Who dares, wins an audience

American Nancy Duncan, London

Contemporary Dance Theatre's new artistic director, talks to Debra Craine



Duncan: "a company can only develop by taking risks"

In the corridors of The Place, home of London Contemporary Dance Theatre, the buzz word is change. Britain's largest contemporary dance company is changing its style, its philosophy and its direction in the hope of changing its fortunes. The past few years have not been kind. Lax artistic direction and the treadmill of regional touring have left the company demoralised and languishing in the artistic doldrums. After setting the trends in the Sixties and Seventies, LCDT found that in the late Eighties, the most exciting contemporary choreography in Britain was taking place outside its domain. Now, however, there is a new management team working to find a relevant role for LCDT in the Nineties.

At the centre of the change is a diminutive 40-year-old American, Nancy Duncan, recently appointed as the third artistic director in the company's 24-year history. Unusually, Duncan is not a choreographer and has no designs on dance-making. She regards herself as an enabler, one who can provide the kind of environment in which choreographers can flourish, and as such will function as a commissioning director.

Her record in America is impressive. In 1982, she founded CoDanceCo, a dance production and performance company based in New York City, which for the past nine years has helped in nurturing the growth of contemporary

dance in America. For CoDanceCo she commissioned new works from Mark Morris, Eiko and Koma, Ralph Lemon, Susan Marshall and Bebe Miller, among others.

At LCDT her brief is to redefine the company's repertoire. "They hired me because they felt they wanted to take LCDT the next step into the contemporary dance world and bring in newer work," she says. "I feel LCDT wants to bring the dance explosion to Britain and take the wonderful audiences it has developed and expose them to more of what's going on."

She also wants to help break

down the wall of misunderstanding that often exists between contemporary dance and the public. LCDT is using pre-performance talks and post-performance parties to educate its audiences. "I grew up in a small Midwestern town and the first thing I ever saw was Merce Cunningham," she says. "I had no idea what I was looking at and it was very difficult. I didn't like it."

"My point with CoDanceCo was to programme it in such a way that I could bring the audience into it. It was like going to an art gallery; they could see Picasso in one room, Degas in another and Leo-

nardo da Vinci in another, and get the idea that they can like some things and hate others."

For her inaugural season she has chosen three new pieces: Nina Wiener's *Wind Devil*; Freedom of Information by the late Annie Zane; and *Free As a Bird* by LCDT's former artistic director, Dan Waggoner. All of them happen to be American, but that, she says, is as much a matter of expediency as of personal preference. "What I know mostly right now is American. I had three or four months to find a couple of works the company could do and the budget had already been set. This programme contains three very distinct points of view. They happen to be American; down the line that will no longer be true."

Her priority is to familiarise herself with the British and European dance scenes, and find out how far she can go with the new job. "I feel that people don't want me to take risks. They are afraid that if I were to commission a choreographer who is risky, that if they haven't got a guaranteed product, then everybody's going to be down on the company and audiences won't come and we won't be funded. "Somehow I want to find a way, of whatever scale, to take those risks once in a while. That is the only way the company will develop."

● London Contemporary Dance Theatre opens at Sadler's Wells Theatre, Rosebery Avenue, London WC1 (071-278 5916) on November 19.

Beating the rap

IN REDBRIDGE Magistrates Court last week the rap group NWA won their case to have 25,000 copies of their album, *Efilzaggin*, returned to them — thanks in part to the expert testimony of a *Times* critic, David Toop. The albums had been seized in June under the Obscene Publications Act. Toop was called by the defence to "interpret" the album to the three lay magistrates. "It was a bizarre occasion," he says. "The defence lawyer was Geoffrey Robertson, of *Oz* trial fame. The magistrates awarded costs against the police."

Last chance...

THE artist Peter Samuelson may hold some sort of record, achieving a big one-man gallery show only in his 80th year. At least "English Faces", his vividly coloured, exquisitely drawn pictures of people from the Fifties to this year proves worth the wait. At the Roy Miles Gallery (071-495 4747) until Thursday.

ARTS REVIEWS

Rock and Theatre page 20

THEATRE

Right man, right time, but wrong direction?

Benedict Nightingale cautiously welcomes the news of a change at the Royal Court

of Stafford-Clark's encouragement. It is hardly his fault that costs rose, grants dropped, and the Court had radically to reduce its offerings during his reign. Nor can he be blamed for discovering fewer good dramatists than some of his predecessors. No producer displayed a noticeably sharper nose for untried talent in the barren Eighties.

Nevertheless, the Court no longer seems as central or necessary as it did: fresh hands may put it firmly back on our mental maps. So why has Daldry been entrusted with this responsibility, yet denied the power fully and speedily to fulfil it? Do his new employers not believe in their own judgement? That is one major question that needs answering. The other, though even more serious, is actually less troubling. Has Daldry the mindset to run an organisation whose primary purpose is to stage new British drama?

The evidence against him is, perversely, his very success at the Gate. He has presented seasons of plays about war, plays by foreign women dramatists and, now, plays from the Spanish "golden age". Unknown work from

Russia, South America, Africa and China is promised for next year. So are seasons of contemporary German plays and plays about AIDS. There has been a British premiere after British premiere, rediscovery after rediscovery. We have been introduced to the remarkable Marieluise Fleisser, author of *Pioneers at Ingolstadt*, and reminded of the subtle strengths of Cornille's *Polyeuzé*. In the past year, the Gate has won half-a-dozen prizes, including the Prudential Award for Theatre; and all for work staged without pretension or public money in a 56-seat pub attic.

Do Daldry's triumphs at a more internationally minded theatre than the Court mean he is blind to British talent? Of course not. In his twenties, he founded a fringe company dedicated to staging new plays, Metro Theatre, and then threw himself into the tricky task of keeping the Sheffield Crucible's studio alive. "We did 90 per cent of our new work there, he did 90 per cent of it, and he has not stopped maturing since," his then boss, Clare Venables, says. "The Court couldn't have chosen better. It is a fabulous appointment."

Coming as it does from one of the most respected figures in the subsidised theatre, that is reassurance enough for me. Daldry is ready for the Court. Let us hope it is ready for him.

"A REASON TO SHOUT FOR JOY"

66 Salutations to Arthur Miller. The greatest living American playwright's first new work in a decade. Miller provides the nation with a Main Event of theatre...hurry to share a notoriously serious dramatist's fresh incarnation as architect of a laughter-filled maze. There are echoes of Shaw & Ibsen, not forgetting Neil Simon. In this remarkably diverse, lively play...one of the funniest plays of ideas in years. 99

Shaun Usher, Daily Mail

66 This searching, scorching, harsh but compassionate play...Miller is writing with all the vigour and agility of the commercial theatre at its most irresistible. This is the funniest play he has written. 99

John Peter, Sunday Times

66 When the 1991 London theatre is recalled in longer memory, from a perspective approaching history, the epochal event will be The Ride Down Mt. Morgan...Arthur Miller at the pinnacle of his talent. 99

William Henry III, TIME

66 Comedy if one thinks, tragedy if one feels. The result is an immensely satisfying evening's theatre. 99

Andrew St. George, FINANCIAL TIMES

66 Extremely funny, extremely touching...absolutely wonderful. 99

Howard Jacobson, THE LATE SHOW, BBC

TOM CONTI
"SUPERB"

Sunday Times

GEMMA JONES
"IMPECCABLE"

Sunday Telegraph

CLARE HIGGINS
"EXCELLENT"

Financial Times

"THIS PLAY IS UNMISSABLE FOR ANYONE WHO CARES ABOUT THE THEATRE"

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THE RIDE DOWN MT. MORGAN
A new play by ARTHUR MILLER
Directed by MICHAEL BLAKEMORE
Designed by TANYA McCALLIN



Sally Brompton meets the latest victims of the recession

The middle classes on their uppers

With their very homes under threat, the *nouveaux pauvres* are flocking to the advice centres — only now they go by bus, not BMW.

Two years ago, Robert Crowther was a successful accountant living in a £500,000 house in south-west London with his wife and two teenage children, holidaying in the Mediterranean, buying Gucci shoes with his gold card.

These days, he stays with friends, moving from one to another so as not to outstay his welcome, travelling by bus instead of BMW, struggling to stay out of the bankruptcy courts which would mean that he could never practise again.

At the age of 48, Mr Crowther (not his real name — "the last thing I want is for people to know how bad the situation is") has lost everything. His practice collapsed when clients were hit by the recession, and he was forced to sell his home for well below its market value in order to pay off the £200,000 mortgage plus the £100,000 he had borrowed on it when the market was buoyant; he is estranged from his family, who are living in a small rented flat; he has forfeited his bank account and credit cards; and the Citizens Advice Bureau (CAB) is helping him to cope with his £25,000 of personal debts.

"I spent ten years working for myself, employing staff and doing everything Maggie Thatcher wanted, and I'm on skid row," he says. "I haven't done anything wrong except take a chance and try to be a capitalist."

Mr Crowther's situation is not unusual. The recession is rampaging through the leafy cul-de-sacs of the south-east just as fiercely as it is casting its chill over the inner city council estates.

Members of Lloyd's are having to sell their homes and possessions to pay off the society's massive deficit; redundancies and wage freezes are rife at managerial level, while the self-employed are suffering from a lack of business and unpaid debts. Last week a survey revealed that advertising for senior staff is at its lowest level since 1959.

A growing number of professional families who accepted the offers of easy money in the 1980s to borrow on the equity of their homes are finding that they can no longer pay back the loans, that their properties are worth less than the money they owe on them — and that they cannot sell them anyway.

Mr Crowther's view that the impact of losing everything is far greater on the professional middle classes than on "people who have never been exposed to the good life" is questionable, but not uncommon among his counter-

parts. Certainly, the CAB's 1,300 branches around the country are seeing a new type of clientele. "There is an increase in professional people coming into the bureaux who have not been our clients in the past," says Terry Walker, the CAB's money advice senior researcher.

"Most of them are over-stretched by mortgages, but they're also suffering from interest rates and redundancies. They come to us when they realise that they can no longer afford a solicitor. A lot of them are shocked at having to claim social security — usually at how small it is."

So great is the demand for free financial advice that many of the CAB's debt counsellors have had to limit their help to emergency cases. "The only people we've been able to see are those faced with repossession proceedings," says Nick Lord, manager of the CAB's money advice unit in Croydon.

"We discuss their budgets and help them re-arrange their finances. If they want to keep a roof over their heads it may be that some things have to go by the board, such as school fees or the second car."

"It's inevitable that things are going to get worse as far as mortgages and repossessions are concerned, because of the time-lag in the system, and because many of the lenders are waiting until the property market improves before they repossess."

The housing charity Shelter is also helping a new kind of client. "The housing aid centres are seeing a lot of people who normally wouldn't cross their thresholds — especially a lot of small business people," says a spokeswoman.

"The number of people I've come across who have had a very successful building business or property development business who have gone bust or lost their homes is really phenomenal."

Shelter's current clients include a stockbroker whose £300,000 home is being repossessed, and a former property developer who is living in a van in a Welwyn Garden City car-park.

With twice as many properties on the market as there were three years ago, home owners who are being forced to sell are having to accept rock-bottom prices. Trevor Kent, a spokesman for the National Association of Estate Agents, is selling a mansion in Buckinghamshire belonging to a Lloyd's "name", which has just been reduced from £475,000 to £375,000 after three months. "Two years ago the price would have been £700,000," Mr Kent says.



Winners and losers: Paul Whitfield of Bonhams, left, says this is a great time to buy furniture; all Colin Berry, above, can buy is a half-pint in the pub

Statistics produced by the Skipton Building Society, which has 59 branches and 60,000 borrowers around the country, show that their repossessions more than doubled among the self-employed during the first six months of 1991, and that 61 per cent of the people whose homes were repossessed by the society during that period were either professionals, self-employed, company directors or senior executives. Accountants came top of the list representing 11 per cent of the total, followed by surveyors, architects, doctors, solicitors and dentists.

According to a spokesman for

the Abbey National Building Society, with 68 branches currently financing 1.2 million mortgages, designers and film directors have been particularly affected. "The problem for the middle classes is that they tend to have two bread-winners, which means that when one of them loses their employment they don't necessarily qualify for social security payments."

So many parents are facing difficulties with private school fees that the Independent Schools Information Service (ISIS) has collaborated in the setting up of an insurance scheme which, for a premium of 2.5 per cent of the fees,

will provide cover for up to two years in the case of redundancy. An increasing number of parents are having to rely on bursaries to enable their children to continue their private education, while some are being forced to transfer them into state schools.

Brian Derbyshire, the principal of Haywards Heath Sixth Form College in Sussex, has seen a marked increase in the number of his pupils coming from independent schools as a result of "parents who have fallen on hard times. For the first time, last year, we received about 15 applications in the middle of the year," Mr Derbyshire says.



School switch: Sarah Harris's father can no longer afford her £5,700-a-year fees



'One doesn't like to have forced vendors'

AUCTIONEER
PAUL WHITFIELD

THE number of middle-class people being hit by the recession has meant rich pickings for the bailiffs and auctioneers. "We are seeing a better class of furniture coming through our hands," says Mark Wilkinson, the managing director of Palmer's in London's East End, auctioneers and valuers to the High Court, county courts and HM Customs & Excise. He recently sold a Rolls-Royce Corniche convertible impounded by the Inland Revenue, and a couple of paintings which had to be valued by Christie's.

Paul Whitfield, the deputy chairman of the Knightsbridge and Chelsea auction house, Bonhams, agrees. "This is a great time to buy because things that have been locked up in houses are being released," Mr Whitfield says. "More people are being forced to sell because of the property market."

While acknowledging that now is a good time to find bargains, particularly in silver and English furniture, Mr Whitfield would like to see "a slightly less nervous market. One doesn't like to have forced vendors and only bargain-hunting buyers."

The Old Master market has been incredibly brisk in the last six months," he says. "You can fill a room with dark and murky martyrdoms and obscure flower paintings and they go through the roof. Terrific prices are being paid by the Italians, although the paintings look utterly grim."

NANNIES' AGENT
SUSAN HOWE

MANY women are putting off having babies because they can no longer afford a nanny, and the nanny market is suffering as a result, says Susan Howe, manager of the 40-year-old Belgravia Bureau in London's Knightsbridge.

With a qualified, live-out nanny earning between £170 and £200 net a week, the total cost to the employer is about £275 a week — the equivalent of almost £14,500 a year. "A mother's got to be earning at least £20,000 to make it worthwhile employing a nanny," Miss Howe says.

Working mothers have the choice of giving up work, employing a child-minder for £40 a week, or sharing a nanny for £20 a day.

'Once upon a time I would have been head-hunted. Now I buy the trade paper once a week'

FASHION EXECUTIVE
COLIN BERRY

COLIN Berry's curriculum vitae does not mention the fact that he was a partner in the fashion agency where he worked for five years. "There's a stigma to having been self-employed if you're

looking for a salaried position," says the 40-year-old divorcee.

After enjoying a salary of more than £20,000 a year plus a company car, Mr Berry is living on income support of £39.65 a week "which means I have to budget myself to spend £5.66 a day". Instead of the comfortable flat which he used to share in Richmond,

Surrey, he now rents a room in a friend's house, paid for by the housing benefit he receives.

He has been out of work since his fashion agency went into liquidation six months ago. He spends his days going to interviews, writing letters in response to job advertisements or walking. He has lost a stone in weight and says that

he is fitter than he has ever been.

"Once upon a time I would have been head-hunted," he says. "Now I buy the trade paper once a week and dive to the centre pages. It's tough because the positions are just not there any more, and if they are they're looking for people aged 25 to 35." He puts his age on his CV because "I'm not ashamed of being 40, I think it's a jolly good age to be."

He still meets his friends in the pub but buys his own half pint, and leaves when it is finished. When he is invited out to dinner he can no longer take along a bottle of wine. Nor can he afford to go to rugby matches or visit his father in the Cotswolds. He has joined the local library and has put his name on the long waiting list for the teaching-self-French book.

Despite the boredom and poverty, he says that his situation has not changed him — "but if I haven't found a job by Christmas I think it will".

SCHOOLGIRL
SARAH HARRIS

LONG before her parents mentioned it, 16-year-old Sarah Harris realised that she was going to have to change schools. The collapse of the property market meant that her father, a 51-year-old property developer, could no longer afford the £5,700-a-year fees at her exclusive boarding school, St Michael's Burton Park in Sussex.

"Although the school very kindly offered her a bursary to stay on, it only covered something like two-thirds of the fees and in today's climate I couldn't do that," says her father, David Harris.

In September Sarah started at Haywards Heath sixth-form college, where she is studying for A levels in geography, English and business studies.



Living on hope: Roger Thurlow was made redundant in May

After the initial adjustment to being with more than 1,000 pupils instead of 180, she is enjoying the school. "I do miss my old school and the closeness we all had there," she says, "but you just have to get over it."

She says the other students "take you for who you are, not where you used to be at school", but she occasionally gets teased for expressions "which they think a bit odd".

With his assets tied up in five properties which he cannot sell, Mr Harris has had to put the family's 15th century home on the market. With 15 acres of ground and an indoor swimming pool, the house is being advertised for £495,000.

OFFICE MANAGER
ROGER THURLOW

ROGER and Linda Thurlow no longer eat out and their dwindling savings mean that they may soon have to sell one of their two modest cars. When Mr Thurlow, who is in his early forties, was made redundant last May by the financial services company for which he had worked for 20 years, he expected to have

found another job by now. "I'm still fairly buoyant and I feel strong enough to make a new life for myself," he says. "The worst part is the uncertainty, not knowing whether this time next month I'll have a job or whether it will be six months."

He gets £41.40 a week unemployment benefit, compared with his annual salary of between £20,000 and £30,000, but is still managing to pay his £600-a-month mortgage from his redundancy money and "a bit put by, which has helped. You just have to hope that a new opening comes along before you get to the end of it."

His former employer pays for the services of an outplacement agency and his travel expenses while looking for work. Mr Thurlow says counselling by the agency has made him recognise his skills and achievements. "Doors close and new ones open. When you don't get a job you tell yourself it's their loss."

"One of our strengths is that Linda and I do give each other mutual support. We go through the occasional bad patch, but not very often."

● Life after Redundancy: a new column begins on Thursday in the Appointments section

IS SOMETHING WRONG IN OUR PRIMARY SCHOOLS?



This Friday The TES focusses on the growing debate about primary teaching methods and results. Will they have to change to meet the demands of the national curriculum and testing?

TES

THE TIMES EDUCATIONAL SUPPLEMENT

Prudential Awards for the Arts

"WE WANT TO FIT THE WORLD INTO OUR LIVING ROOM"

We want to be able to bring you important and passionate drama from around the globe

This year we performed 16 premieres from five continents in a space just 18ft by 15ft (No bigger than the average living room.) Next year we want to do more

This year we worked with 182 actors, 14 directors, 12 designers and 43 stage managers. Next year we want to work with more.

This year we were only able to pay an average weekly wage of under a pound. Next year we want to pay more.

This year we performed to over 14,000 people. Next year we want to perform to many more

STEPHEN DALTRY, THE GATE THEATRE

THE GATE THEATRE, NOTTING HILL

The Prudential Award for Best New Production, 1991, goes to The Gate Theatre, Notting Hill, for its production of The Importance of Being Earnest, by Oscar Wilde, directed by Stephen Daldry.

Three-party Toryism

Peter Riddell finds ministers divided by their attitudes to Mrs Thatcher

Life at the top of the Conservative party always reminds me of *Julius Caesar*. There is a similar combination of brutality and hypocrisy, though not, unfortunately, oratory. And just as the fate of the characters in the play turns on their relations with the fallen leader, so too do most Tory MPs still define themselves in relation to Margaret Thatcher.

She casts a long shadow, from which John Major has not yet entirely escaped. Take, for instance, three ministers to whom I have talked over the past week. The first was relieved to see the back of Mrs Thatcher, the second supported her to the end but has accommodated to the new regime, and the third remains completely unreconciled. Let me call them *One Nation*, *Thatcherite* and *No Turning Back* respectively. The three exist, only slightly disguised here, though they reflect broad trends in the party. I have omitted a fourth, *Time Server*, because he agrees with whatever the prime minister

RIDDELL ON MONDAY

him and his friends not to despair, their time will come. But he is not so sure. He thinks the great days are over.

Thatcherite is closer to the centre of power and less apocalyptic. He thinks the changes since last November have been more of rhetoric than of substance. It is just that John talks differently from Margaret about Europe and public services and is of a different generation. But none of the main legacy has gone; the poll tax was never really central to Thatcherism. The government is still tough on inflation and the privatisation and deregulation programmes are continuing. *Thatcherite* is less forthright about the increases in public spending, but shrugs them off ahead of the election. He is also pleasantly surprised when he looks round the cabinet table about how strong and united his colleagues are on Europe. He thinks a deal at Maastricht is just about, more likely than not and believes the vast majority of Tory MPs, like *Time Server*, will back whatever the cabinet recommends.

'What did Margaret ever see in John?' he asks. 'The prime minister hardly shares her views on anything'

One Nation thoroughly enjoys being in the Major government. Policy is discussed calmly and everyone gets on well; after some initial wariness, Michael Heseltine has been regularly round to 10 Downing Street for cosy chats. *One Nation* has no worries about the present team distancing themselves from Mrs Thatcher. Over the past year a series of significant changes have been achieved without splitting the party — the proposed replacement of the poll tax by the council tax, the new emphasis on maintaining the quality of public services, Mr Major's deft handling of international issues. Together with signs of the economy emerging from recession, it will be possible to present Mr Major as successfully dealing with the unpopular aspects of Thatcherism.

The key is Europe, and *One Nation* believes that if a deal can be agreed at Maastricht that could be a defining moment for Mr Major, when at last he can separate himself from Mrs Thatcher, if necessary confronting her. Mr Major can then become truly his own man, developing his own view of Britain in the 1990s. She will then cease to be a brooding presence and become a figure from the past, a protagonist in the battle of the memoirs with Mr Lawson and Sir Geoffrey Howe. Even then perhaps we will still hear echoes — not perhaps of *The Duchess of Maltravers*, but of *The Duchess of Maltravers*. After struggles which Mrs Thatcher would understand, the great lady protests: "I am Duchess of Maltravers still."

No Turning Back is irritated by Nicholas Ridley's weekend comments and at times he wonders whether it might be best if the Tories lost the election and regrouped, since he does not believe his lot have much future in a re-elected Major government. Some older ex-ministers who are retiring from the Commons have urged

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Rich and poor in the Philippines are courting a return of dictatorship, says Joanna Pitman

Madness in Manila

Euphoria, Manila's swankiest nightclub, was living up to its name on Saturday night, packed with jubilant Marcos loyalists celebrating a return to the good old days and waiting for their idol, Imelda Marcos, to drop in for a dance before dawn.

One middle-aged woman, ears, throat and wrists dripping with gold, collapsed on a velvet cushion after her exertions on the dance floor. As she summoned more champagne, the conversation turned to the 3,000 Filipinos killed in floods last week. Her lips curled in horror. She had not heard much about it because, insulated in her \$2m Manila home, she had been busy organising the Imelda reception committee.

Her hard work had paid off. Mrs Marcos, who six years ago fled to escape a popular revolt, leaving a plundered economy, a politicised military force and a poverty-stricken people, returned last week to an ecstatic welcome. Tens of thousands of poor Filipinos, many of them the same victims of injustice who had marched in 1986 to oust her late husband's

dictatorship, lined the streets to cheer.

Behind the jubilation of the moment, however, is the belief that another Marcos regime is on the way that will allow them to get back to the business of looting the nation. But the matching fervour of ordinary Filipinos is no vote of confidence in Mrs Marcos. It is testimony of their disappointment with President Corason Aquino, the politically inexperienced housewife thrust into power with little to qualify her beyond her position as the widow of a political martyr.

Mrs Marcos has commissioned a survey of national support for herself and is in effect already on the campaign trail for next May's presidential election, touring the provinces with her entourage of hairdressers and make-up artists, offering to "shower the people with love", blowing kisses, hug-

ging babies. If Mrs Aquino rises to the bait and decides to run for a second term, the nation will be drawn into a nasty feud. Members of the small ruling elite, all from wealthy establishment families, are already lining up on either side.

Preoccupied with political infighting, they have neither the time nor the inclination to address the difficulties faced by 62 million ordinary Filipinos in a nation sinking down the league of third world poverty. Nature has not helped: the flood was the fourth natural disaster in the Philippines in the past 17 months, following an earthquake, typhoons and one of the worst volcanic eruptions this century.

But the underlying cause of the nation's descent was the 20-year Marcos dictatorship, which reduced the nation from being one of the most promising markets in

southeast Asia to an economic basket case. The per capita income is now half that of Thailand. GNP hovers around zero, and crime is soaring along with population growth, likely to reach 120 million by 2020. Filipino economists are beginning to compare their nation with destitute countries such as Bangladesh.

The land, tax, industrial, judicial and other reforms essential to pull the country away from the edge of the abyss are anathema to a ruling elite that relies on existing inequities to keep the under-classes in check. Poverty is visible everywhere. In the provinces, peasants working on bankrupt sugar estates barely make enough to survive, their hungry children kept from school to help in the field. In Manila, whole families of ragged squatters live inside the sewage system or on rubbish

dumps. If they had invested their hopes for deliverance in Mrs Aquino, they have been disappointed. Her ineffectual leadership has compounded the depredations of the Marcos years. The economy has regressed; foreign investment flows have stagnated. Their prospects are bleaker than before.

When Mrs Marcos and her circus come to town, the poor travel from miles around to enjoy a brief distraction from their grim lives. Some sing, wave, applaud and laugh; others simply stare, hypnotised by the glamour.

Few connect Mrs Marcos's political aspirations with the scores of charges of corruption she faces. Her performance on her dry-run campaign trail last week, paying the crowds and offering them free meals to attend, show the Marcos methods have not changed. But then the faith of most Filipinos in genuine reform has evaporated. They have resigned themselves to simply enjoying the Imelda show, hoping for the odd 100 pesos (£2) handout when the elections come round.

One bright spark too many

Jokes about burning books are dangerous, writes Bernard Levin

I have not seen the new programme on Channel 4, *Burning Books*, which I gather discusses the week's new publications, and I think I shall not switch on when it is showing. In those circumstances, you might think that I am in no position to offer any opinion about it, and although there is a long tradition of what might be called blindfold criticism, I would not normally comment on anything I have not inspected, were it not for the exceptional nature of the programme.

For until recently it included a special item, one which I rather think must be examined. It does not concern the nature and quality of the books discussed (on which I would remain silent), nor of writing present and past (in which, however broad the field surveyed, I would not take a stand), nor such disputatious matters as the Net Book Agreement (from conversation on which I would rapidly flee). What then, you ask, would tempt me into an argument on something of which I have no first-hand knowledge? It is this: those who took part in the programme were invited, if they thought a book being judged in the programme had no merit, to throw it, visibly, into a fire, presumably a fire surrounded with proper precautions, lest a boss-shot should set the television studio ablaze. But then, I rather hoped it would.

I think that the people who devised this merry wheeze must be young, a good deal younger than me anyway. The man in charge, Waldemar Januszczak, I have met once or twice, but not sufficiently often to guess at his years. Nor does it matter very much, except to reinforce my belief that they have never come across Santayana's apothegm, "Those who cannot remember the past are condemned to repeat it." (We shall come to what Heine said on the subject in due course.)

Mr Januszczak's comment, to *The Times* Diary, was a plea for critics to "come down from their elitist soap boxes". I am a kind of critic, on and off, and I am only too willing to come down from my

elitist soap box, as soon as this complicated manoeuvre is demonstrated to me in an intelligible fashion, for at present I can make little of it, unless elitist soap boxes are particularly flammable, when I am willing to apply the match, relieved that the auto-da-fé has passed the books by.

But I fear that the envenoming item in the programme was intended to be the moment when a book was judged wanting by one or more participants, and the crackling of the flames meant that another volume had been consigned to the fire. True, Mr Januszczak says that "People don't have the guts to say a book isn't worth the paper it's printed on", but there is not a considerable gap between condemning a book as rubbish and burning it? We are up against it, friends, for it was clear that the people in charge of the programme would answer the question "No".

Well, then, it is our task to make it "Yes". Let us start by seeing what John Milton thought a book is:

Books are not absolutely dead things, but do contain a potency of life in them to be active as that soul whose progeny they are; nay they do preserve in a vial the purest efficacy and extraction of that living intellect that bred them.

If you stop and contemplate those words you will surely, if you are not an absolutely dead thing, see the point. Even if you don't, you must have played the dinner-table game: whom, anywhere in history, would you like to invite to dinner? Almost invariably, the reason you want to call such guests back from history is because of their books. History is built out of books, each book a brick; who would want to spend ten minutes with Richard the Lionheart, for all



the playthings and playbooks of children long, long dead, and he might find this shelf of what was junk to us, but treasure to him. From that day, I have never allowed myself to believe that any book is without merit, even if it is only the merit of being brought to light centuries later.

Besides, were not the participants in the programme, particularly Mr Januszczak, being a touch — how shall I put it? — well, elitist? What is rubbish to them is clearly not rubbish to thousands or even millions who buy and enjoy, say, popular fiction. Who are Mr Januszczak and his friends to lay down the laws to what the masses should read, and what should be consigned to the flames? Were it not for the fact that I have proclaimed my resolve not to watch the programme, I might argue that if there is to be book-burning at all, it should be the shortlist for the Booker prize, including the winner. And who should censure me for doing so — unless it be Waldemar Januszczak?

And yet the story unfolds another twist: let us pause in assessing books, and agree that some are worthless rubbish in anyone's eyes. There still remains the fate that was reserved for them. And I think it is now time to tell you what Heine said on the subject: he said, "Those who begin by burning books will end by burning people."

No, I do not believe that a programme on Channel 4 will lead to murder. But in my lifetime Heine was proved exactly right. The ashes of the murdered millions are too precious to be mingled with the ashes of books declared burnable by a gaggle of modish poseurs on television. Hear Milton for the last time: *As good almost kill a man as kill a good book; who kills a man kills a reasonable creature, God's image; but he who destroys a good book, kills reason itself, kills the image of God, as it were in the eye.*



...and moreover MATTHEW PARRIS

My maternal grandfather had an unworried streak. Once, while my grandmother was out, a man came round selling wooden ladders he had made himself. Granddad bought one. It was expensive.

"Why?" protested Nana, for they were not rich. "We have a perfectly good steel ladder."

"I know," said Granddad, "but wooden ladders are a dying trade. I wanted to encourage him."

Their son, my Uncle Ray, inherited the trait. Believing the railway to be the transport mode of any wisely planned society, he goes by train, even where inconvenient, just to encourage British Rail.

Their daughter, my mother, has never so much as nodded in the direction of practical calculation. She used (when we lived in Rhodesia) to employ migrant Africans when there was nothing whatsoever for them to do, hoping to make a dent on urban poverty in central Africa.

Dad's side of the family was different. Grandma sawed off all the posts on her four-poster beds because they were impractical. And you must never take her son, my father, shopping for furnishings as he chooses household goods in complete disregard of their appearance and solely on account of whether they are likely to collect dust.

These opposite traits war in my own soul. The result is a

most unhappy one. I behave quite pointlessly, can see that what I am doing is quite pointless, and yet cannot stop myself.

I have just lost another hopeless campaign. I had been trying to drink enough "mild" beer at the Druid Inn in Birchover to persuade the proprietor, Mr Bunce, to keep it on tap, not just for me but for the whole nation. This weekend there was a towel over the tap. "We've taken it off," said Mr B. "for good."

I love mild. It's cheap, it tastes, well, mild — and its big advantage for a small chap like me is that you bulk out before you peg out. With mild I can achieve the happy state of honestly not wanting another drink and yet still being able to walk.

And that's the problem. I can't drink it fast enough. In pubs up and down the country publicans are weighing up whether to carry on catering to diminishing demand. In pubs up and down the country I am asking for mild in a frantic attempt to show them that many customers do still want it. It had reached the state at the Druid when I was ready to buy a pint and pour it down the loo when nobody was looking.

But I cannot do it single-handed; the rest of the country is not pulling its weight and I feel I am shouldering more and more of the burden. I really cannot continue ingesting this volume. The more so because of my campaign to eat kippers, but actually wild about kippers, but

they're tasty enough and I do think they should be an option. Increasingly they are not. Most of Britain now watches *Blind Date*, and the kind of person who watches *Blind Date* does not eat kippers. Bravely, a number of good hotels still resist the trend and offer them on the breakfast menu. In these circumstances one feels absolutely bound to order kippers, to reward the kitchen for making the effort. Frankly, I'm getting rather sick of kippers. Kippers are coming out of my ears. The more so because of my campaign to use rural bus services. It is vital that we keep these links open — everyone agrees. But nobody actually uses them. So I try. But a busy career and social life is quite hard to fit in to rural bus timetables in the North Midlands. You have long waits at bus stops.

To fill the time there, I read *The Independent*. I realise they are having a struggle and feel that a brave and talented venture should be encouraged: so I try to carry a copy, sometimes concealing the *Daily Mail* within.

Only very occasionally does the question occur: is all this doing any good? The answer is, I don't know. As I am carried by rural bus from mid-serving pub to mid-serving pub, *The Independent* rolled up beneath my arm, and burping kippers, I only know that Granddad would have approved.

Called to account

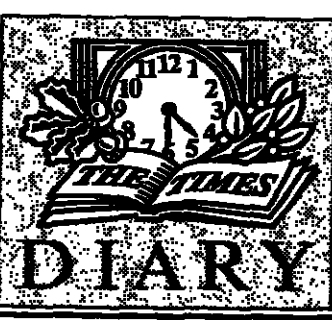
AS THE funding of political parties comes under closer scrutiny in advance of the general election, it has emerged that ten years ago senior figures in the BCCI, the bank at the centre of international scandals, flirted seriously with the idea of bankrolling the SDP. Anthony Martin, who was head of the SDP's public relations in 1981, says: "In November of that year John Hillberry, then head of public affairs at BCCI, asked me whether the party would be interested in a donation, possibly running to millions. He told me the money came from the Middle East."

Hillberry confirms that he contacted the party about a substantial donation — although far smaller than Martin believed — but it was likely to be in the form of a series of large personal bequests from BCCI officials. "The idea fizzled out because the SDP never came back to us," he says.

Three members of the Gang of Four were never told of the offer. Bill Rodgers, chairman of the party's finance committee in 1981, was not informed but says: "We wouldn't have accepted money from people in the BCCI as it would have compromised our independence."

Dr David Owen, with Lord Diamond, the party's treasurer in all but name at the time, met the most senior figures in the bank in 1981. Diamond says: "They wanted to discuss foreign policy. According to Diamond no offer of funding was made, but he insists the money would have been accepted."

Dr Owen says: "At that stage not many people knew very much about BCCI. I don't think we would have been very keen to take money from them. BCCI was seen



as worth talking to about the third world and development policy. If they had individuals who wanted to give money that was their affair." Given their subsequent history, perhaps both sides had a narrow escape.

● With the toppling at the weekend of one of the last statues of Lenin in Eastern Europe, a 55ft colossus in east Berlin, a more discreet clearance has taken place closer to home. A 5ft bronze bust of Lenin has been moved from the council chamber at Islington town hall after protests from one of the Labour councillors, Greg Hayman. But the leaders of the London borough are hedging their bets. The bust has been moved only as far as the top of a nearby staircase, discreetly positioned behind a floral arrangement.

Reith's ghost?

LORD REITH, it seems, may not have been the author of the fib that appeared on his first job application to the BBC in 1922. The indiscretion, first reported here, may have been the responsibility of one of Reith's friends who co-wrote the letter.

Ian McIntyre, former controller of Radio 3, researching a book on Reith, discovered that he had told the BBC that since he had left his last job he had been abroad, the

truth being that he had spent several fruitless months seeking work.

The Diary has discovered that one of Reith's closest friends, James Estling, an engineer, helped compose the letter. Estling's son, Peter, says from his home in Wales: "John Reith asked my father to help write a suitable letter of application. My father, who enjoyed letter writing, had a neat turn of phrase. Before the friends parted that night the letter was composed."

Estling suspects his father may have been guilty of the fib. "We shall never know. But does it matter two hoots? The end surely justified the means in this case."

Mon ami

THE European debate is intensifying ahead of Maastricht and Peter Lilley has been using his French connection — he has a house in Normandy — to good effect. At the Tory and CBI conferences the trade and industry secretary referred in speeches to

conversations with his Normandy neighbour, who was scathing about the way the British protested loudest about the EC, but dutifully obeyed its laws. He quoted his neighbour as saying:

"European laws only apply in England."

One or two of Lilley's aides at the DTI are dubious, and they are not the only ones. French reporters, anxious to interview the mystery farmer, have been unable to track him down. They have turned to Hugh Dykes, one of the most pro-European Tory MPs, for help. According to a DTI mole, a letter has landed on Lilley's desk from Dykes seeking the name and address of the farmer.

Dykes is certain Lilley will oblige. "I am sure this farmer would like to share his views with an audience wider than his ministerial neighbour. He may, not know what a figure he has become in the European debate." So far, Dykes has not had a reply.

Man the pumps

NO FEWER than three world dance premieres are being staged at Her Majesty's Theatre next month in one of the biggest assemblies of dancing talent seen on the London stage. The show will be in support of Crusaid, an AIDS charity, and the Princess of Wales will be in attendance.

The first premiere will be a piece by Sir Kenneth MacMillan to music by Poulenc, which will be performed by Leanne Benjamin of English National Ballet and Stephen Jeffries, of the Royal Ballet. The second will be a new tango performed by Julio Bocca, an "Argentinian firecracker", and the third features Anthony Dowell and Marguerite Porter, wearing top hat, white tie and tails, in *Dancing in the Dark*, a new work by Gillian Lynne, choreographer of *Cats* and organiser of the "Cent" to top off the gala Vivienne Duranti and Irek Mukhametov of the Royal Ballet will dance the rarely performed pas de deux from *Emerelda*. Will Princess Diana bring her dancing shoes?







COURT CIRCULAR

BUCKINGHAM PALACE

November 9: The Queen and the Duke of Edinburgh, accompanied by The Princess Royal, were present this evening at the Royal British Legion Festival of Remembrance at the Royal Albert Hall.

The Hon. Mary Morrison, Major-General Brian Penicott and Lieutenant-Colonel Blair Stewart-Went were in attendance.

The Duke of York this evening attended the Royal British Legion Festival of Remembrance at the Royal Albert Hall.

November 10: The Queen and the Duke of Edinburgh attended the Remembrance Day Service at the Cenotaph this morning and laid wreaths.

The Princess Royal was present during the ceremony. The Duke of Edinburgh took the salute at a march past of the Service Organisations on Horse Guards Parade this morning.

Lieutenant Commander Malcolm Sillars, RN, was in attendance.

The Duke of York attended the Remembrance Day Service at the Cenotaph this morning and laid a wreath.

Major William McLean was in attendance.

CLARENCE HOUSE November 9: Queen Elizabeth The Queen Mother was present this evening at the Royal British Legion Festival of Remembrance at the Royal Albert Hall.

Dame Frances Campbell-Preston and Major Sir Ralph Anstruther, Bt, were in attendance.

November 10: Queen Elizabeth The Queen Mother was present this morning during the ceremony at the Cenotaph on the occasion of Remembrance Day.

Dame Frances Campbell-Preston was in attendance. A wreath was laid on behalf of Her Majesty by Major Sir Ralph Anstruther, Bt.

KENSINGTON PALACE November 9: The Prince and Princess of Wales attended the Royal British Legion Festival of Remembrance at the Royal Albert Hall.

November 10: The Princess of Wales attended the Welsh Remembrance Day Service at the Cenotaph this morning and laid a wreath.

The Princess of Wales was present during the ceremony. Colonel John Winter was in attendance.

His Royal Highness, Colonel, Welsh Guards, attended a luncheon at the Officers' Mess, Wellington Barracks, SW1.

The Prince and Princess of Wales attended the Welsh Guards Remembrance Sunday Service at the Guards Chapel, Wellington Barracks, SW1.

Captain Matthew Rudd was in attendance.

KENSINGTON PALACE November 9: Princess Alice, Duchess of Gloucester and The Duke and Duchess of Gloucester were present this evening at the Royal British Legion Festival of Remembrance at the Royal Albert Hall.

November 10: Princess Alice, Duchess of Gloucester and The Duke and Duchess of Gloucester were present this morning during the ceremony at the Cenotaph on the occasion of Remembrance Day.

The Duchess of Kent was present during the ceremony.

YORK HOUSE ST JAMES'S PALACE November 9: The Duke of Kent was present this evening at the Royal British Legion Festival of Remembrance at the Royal Albert Hall.

November 10: The Duke of Kent laid a wreath at the Cenotaph this morning on the occasion of Remembrance Day.

The Duchess of Kent was present during the ceremony.

THATCHED HOUSE LODGE November 9: Princess Alexandra and Sir Angus Ogilvy were present this evening at the Royal British Legion Festival of Remembrance at the Royal Albert Hall.

November 10: Princess Alexandra and Sir Angus Ogilvy were present this morning during the ceremony at the Cenotaph on the occasion of Remembrance Day.

Forthcoming marriages

Mr C.D. Beese and Mrs T.A. Gee

The engagement is announced between Christopher David, eldest son of Mr and Mrs C.H. Beese, of East Grafton, Wiltshire, and Teresa Ann, daughter of Mr John Walter, of Fleet, Hampshire, and Mrs Margaret Hewson, of Mickleton, Gloucestershire.

Mr M.E. Brownlow and Miss K.S. Livingstone

The engagement is announced between Mark, youngest son of the late Mr Philip Brownlow, and Mrs Nancy Brownlow, of Bushey, Hertfordshire, and Kate, daughter of Dr and Mrs Jeremy Livingstone, Edinburgh.

Mr L.D. Chapman and Miss J.L. Will

The engagement is announced between Luke, eldest son of Mr Alan Chapman, Burley, Hampshire, and Mrs Derek Elcock, of Chelsea, London, and Jenny, youngest daughter of Mr and Mrs Kenneth Will, of Muskeux, West Indies.

Mr H.J. Codrington and Miss A.B. McCullough

The engagement is announced between Hugo, youngest son of Sir Simon Codrington, Bt, and Mrs Antony Johnson, of Badminton, Avon, and Antonia, eldest daughter of Mr and Mrs Andrew McCullough, of Windsor, Berkshire.

Mr J. Doest and Miss C.R. Asquith

The engagement is announced between Jonathan, son of Mr and Mrs R. Doest, of Poringland, and Charlotte, daughter of Mr and Mrs J.S. Asquith, of Kyre, Tenbury Wells, Worcestershire.

Mr A.J. Gilmore and Dr E.B. Williams

The marriage took place on Saturday in Lichfield Cathedral of Mr Andrew Gilmore, youngest son of Sir Ian Gilmore, MP, and Lady Caroline Gilmore, of Dr Emma Williams, only daughter of Mr and Mrs Christopher Williams, of Alreways Hayes, Staffordshire. The Right Rev Simon Phipps officiated.

The bride, who was given in marriage by her father, was attended by Rachel Gilmore, Katharine Gilmore, Laura Gilmore, Mary Gilmore, Natalia Gilmore, Lady Louise-Jane Montagu Douglas Scott, Georgina Craig Harvey, Timmy Pleydell-Bouverie, Jamie Pleydell-Bouverie, Sam Seccombe, Olivia Jack and Miss Eugenie Harper. Mr Christopher Gilmore was best man.

A reception was held at the home of the bride and the honeymoon will be spent in Anguilla and Nevis.

Dinners

Frinton Society Mr Peter Viggers, MP, entertained the Frinton Society (RN Russian interpreters) at dinner on Saturday at the House of Commons. Mr Robert Avery, Defence School of Languages, was the speaker.

Society of Scottish Lawyers in London The Society of Scottish Lawyers in London held its annual dinner at the Café Royal on

Mr S.A. Kellie-Smith and Miss L. Jolliffe

The engagement is announced between Sam, son of Mr and Mrs David Kellie-Smith, and Lucy, daughter of Mrs Mary Jolliffe and the late Mr John Neil Hyton Jolliffe.

Mr A.R. Loveys-Jervise and Miss M.T.C. Welch

The engagement is announced between Anthony, Richard, younger son of Mr and Mrs John Loveys-Jervise, of Herriard Park, Hampshire, and Margaret Trudy Cullum, elder twin daughter of Sir John Welch, Bt, and Lady Welch, of London, SW6.

Mr P.J. Smith and Miss L.M. Mitchell

The engagement is announced between Luke, eldest son of Mr J.A.E. Smith, of Igham, Kent, and Mrs M. Smith, of Sevenoaks, Kent, and Lydia, daughter of Mr and Mrs R.J.W. Mitchell, of Plaxton, Kent.

Mr B.C.J. Tozer and Miss J. O'Callaghan

The engagement is announced between Bruce, son of Mr and Mrs George Tozer, of Manor Farm, Woodcote, Salisbury, and Mrs Barry O'Callaghan, of Melbourne, Australia. The marriage will take place in England.

Mr S. Walker and Miss S.J. Dushane

The engagement is announced between Stephen, son of Mr and Mrs Anthony Walker, of Oxford, and Sarah, daughter of Mrs Diana Dick, and the late Mr Alan Dick, of Oxford.

Mr G.W. Brooke-Taylor and Miss S.J. Hoster

The marriage took place in the morning at 11.30, between Mr Geoffrey Brooke-Taylor, of Kenilworth, Warwickshire, son of Barbara Brooke-Taylor and the late Mrs Geoffrey Brooke-Taylor, of Bakewell, Derbyshire, and Miss Sarah Hoster, of Old Marston, Oxford, daughter of Mr Philip Hoster, of Old Marston, Oxford. A service of blessing will be held in Bakewell Parish Church on November 17.

Mr D.S. Carey and Mrs S.A. Firth

The marriage took place recently between Doreen Saumarez Carey, eldest daughter of the late Mr Rupert Carey and of Mrs Margaret Carey, of Hambledon, Hampshire, and Sarah Ann Longstaff, of Firth (née Longstaff) widow of Christopher Firth and eldest daughter of the late Major William Longstaff, and of Mrs Dorothy Maass, of Brantingham, Yorkshire.

Friday Night: The Lord Chancellor, the Honorary President of the Society, and Sir William Fraser, GCB, FRSE, were the speakers. Mr Gregor Kowalski presided.

Association of Cricket Umpires Mr Michael McIlush, President of the Marylebone Cricket Club, was the guest of honour at the annual dinner of the Association of Cricket Umpires held at the Dolphin Hotel, St. Ives, Cambridgeshire, on Saturday. Miss Sheila Pitt presided.

OBITUARIES

YVES MONTAND



Yves Montand, actor and music-hall singer, died of a heart attack while filming near Paris on November 9 aged 70. He was born in Montsummano, Italy on October 13, 1921.

YVES Montand regularly headed French opinion polls as the most popular living Frenchman (especially with women). He was a good actor more than a great one; but he had a special charisma, deriving maybe from his Italian peasant origins - a wiry physical magnetism, debonair charm, vulnerability, and an appealing integrity and honesty. This honesty informed all his best screen work (he made nearly 60 films), whether he was playing a truck-driver in *La Saltaire de la peur* or a liberal Czech victim of Stalinism in *L'Aveu*. It also marked his ebullient political campaigning, alike during his pro-communist period of the 1950s and in his strongly anti-communist phase of the 1980s.

Ivo Livi (his real name) was born in Tuscany in 1921, into a peasant family of communist sympathies who in 1924 fled to Marseille to escape Fascism. There Livi grew up in poverty: he left school at 11 and took odd jobs in a pasta factory, as a delivery boy and as metalworker and docker. From childhood he was keen to be a singer, and his talent was soon spotted: by 1939 he was singing in the Marseilles music-halls. After the war, he moved to Paris, where Edith Piaf helped launch his career and was for three years his mistress. By 1959 his one-man shows were a roaring success, and by 1955 he had taken New York too by storm. Among his most popular songs were *Les Feuilles Mortes* and *Les Gamins de Paris*, and the ironic Western, *Dans les Plaines du Far West*. He began also appearing in films, making his name as an actor in *Le Saltaire de la peur* (1952), an action-suspense thriller in which he played

a lorry-driver taking a consignment of nitro-glycerine into the jungle to put out an oil-fire. It earned him a prize at the Cannes Film Festival.

In 1951, Montand married the actress Simone Signoret. It was a tempestuous relationship but a true *mariage d'amore* that was to last until her death in 1985. The Montands became by far the most

popular couple in France, symbols of happy stability in the rickety showbiz world. They acted together in the Paris stage production of Arthur Miller's *The Crucible*, and in its film version, *Le Sorcière de Salem* (1956). This was also their heyday of political activism: though never Communist Party members, they often took part in communist-

led rallies and marches - against the bomb and the Rosenberg executions, etc. But the invasion of Hungary soured their faith in the Soviet Union and the Soviet invasion of Czechoslovakia led to their final break with the movement.

Although remaining a Leftish radical, Montand now took up an increasingly anti-communist stance. In 1960, he moved into the Hollywood orbit, making some 'big' (but not very good) American films such as *Allez-vous Brahms?* with Ingrid Bergman, *My Geisha*, with Shirley Maclaine, and notably *Let's Make Love*, with Marilyn Monroe who called him "the most exciting man I've ever met" (his much-touted love-affair with her was publicised with remarkable forgiveness by Signoret). He made other Hollywood films including *On a Clear Day You Can See Forever* (1969) with Barbra Streisand but Montand was never at ease in Hollywood, much preferring his serious French roles such as the war-torn Franco agent in *Resnais' La Guerre est finie* (1966).

For Costa-Gavras in 1968-72 he starred in a remarkable trio of political films that castigated tyrannies both of Right and Left - *Z*, *L'Aveu* and *Etat de siège*. In the first two he played noble liberals (*L'Aveu* was probably his finest work), but in *Etat de siège* he had the courage to play an unsympathetic "villain" - a CIA agent in Latin America.

In his later years Montand returned with success to the stage. In 1981 he performed a one-man show at the Paris Olympia and then toured with it abroad, appearing in New York at the Metropolitan, a rare if not unique distinction for a singer of popular songs. Montand did little notable screen work after *Etat de siège* until 1986 when he received renewed critical acclaim playing the scheming patriarch of a Provencal mountain village torn apart by a feud over a vital water supply in *Jean de*

Florent and its sequel *Manon des Sources*. Following the death of Simone Signoret, Montand married Carole Azriel, a woman much younger than himself, with whom in 1988, he had his only child, a son named Valentin.

As a singer Yves Montand was in the great French tradition of Piaf, Trénet and Chevalier. With his deep-voiced, rasping voice, he would often portray some garage hand or dockworker, and his songs in turn wistful, funny and erotic would echo the dreams, desires and failures of the *petite peuple* of Marseille, where he grew up. As a star, he was a true man-of-the-people, yet also a serious, committed actor in his choice of such works as *The Crucible*, *Z* and *La Guerre est finie*. He ranged easily between light-comedy and drama.

Someone said of him: "He has the mind of an intellectual and the physique of a truck-driver." Hence his massive popularity. Hence too, the public's acceptance of his curious political evolution. Or, more accurately, he was always a radical, but by the early 1980s his frequent public utterances were devoted mainly to warnings of the communist menace. He criticised his good friend Mitterrand for including communists in his government. He spoke up in favour of Euro-missiles, even of Thatcherite economic policies. And, because he was Montand, his views carried weight. A French public grown cynical about career politicians turned eagerly to this persuasive amateur, one of his late-night TV broadcasts on economic issues had an audience of eight million till over midnight. A French recording of his voice was even raised, "Montand for President!" and in a newspaper poll 29 per cent of those questioned said they would vote for him. But Montand declined. "No," he said. "Reagan stood because he was a bad actor. Since I'm a good one, I won't."

MADELEINE DAVIS

Madeline Davis, psychotherapist and editor, died on October 21 aged 59. She was born in Toronto, on January 18, 1932.

MADELEINE Davis's lasting claim on the attention of posterity lies in her interpretation and popularisation of the works of the now celebrated English child psychiatrist and psychoanalyst Dr Donald Woods Winnicott (1896-1971). Winnicott's name is known throughout the world (especially in America) for those responsible for rearing infants and young children - ranging from "ordinary devoted mothers" and their normal babies to child care specialists professionally responsible for disturbed children in residential homes and other institutions. Fifty years ago Winnicott's work was unknown or, if known, neglected or derided and this remarkable reversal of reputation is attributable in no small measure to the work of Madeleine Davis.

She was the daughter of Harry Ashlin, a Protestant Anglo-Brazilian mining engineer and a Roman Catholic Canadian woman. Madeleine was a convert to Anglicanism after marriage.

After attending Haverall College, Toronto, she went to Rio de Janeiro with her father, whose profession had necessitated a move there. In 1952 she moved to Britain where she completed a degree course in English and philosophy at St Andrews University but

failed the paper on medieval history. She then abandoned academic study for several decades and instead married John Allen Davis (then paediatric registrar at the Paddington Green Children's Hospital) and started to raise a family - three boys and two girls. Her husband was later to become professor of paediatrics, first at Manchester, eventually at Cambridge.

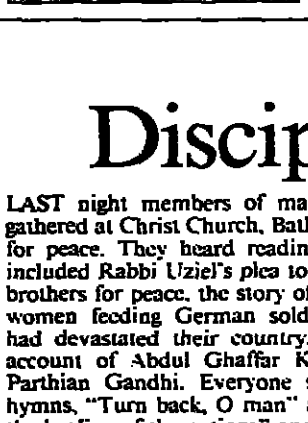
Donald Winnicott had been for many years a consultant physician at the Paddington Green Children's Hospital when he and the Davises first met and, as they lived next door to the hospital, they came to know each other well. Madeleine's practical experience of bringing up a young family was both lightened and enlightened by a growing understanding of Winnicott's theories and philosophy; in

brief, these were to anglicise Germanic Freudian concepts and to add a dash of British commonsense and pragmatism to the mixture. When he died a Winnicott Trust was established under the chairmanship of Dr Martin James. His widow, Clare, invited Madeleine to take a leading role in the Winnicott publication committee which edited material recommended for publication, and, usually, translation into foreign languages.

Winnicott had left a vast collection of unpublished but eminently publishable material which Madeleine read and re-read and, in so doing, became the world's leading authority on the author and his works. She was much sought after as adviser and lecturer.

With the collaboration of Ray Shepherd or Christopher Bollas five volumes of posthumous work have already been published and two more are about to appear. With the assistance of David Warbridge she wrote a book entitled *Boundary and Space* which provides an admirable introduction to Winnicott's work. As editorial work neared completion she realised a long-standing ambition to qualify as a psychotherapist. But it then became clear that she had not long to live and thus she had to abandon her practice not long after it had begun.

She died at home in the presence of her family.



Today's royal engagements

The Duke of York, as patron, will attend a dinner at the Merchant Adventurers' Hall, York, at 7.30 to mark the 50th anniversary of the Outward Bound Trust. The Princess Royal, as Patron of the British Executive Service Overseas, will attend the annual meeting of the Institute of Directors at 3.30; and, as President of the British Olympic Association, will attend the launch of the 1992 Olympic Appeal at the National Westminster Hall at 6.45.

Service dinner

The King's Own Yorkshire Light Infantry (TA) Brigadier J.W. Parker presided at the annual dinner of the 4th Battalion The King's Own Yorkshire Light Infantry (TA) Officers' Club held on Saturday in the officers' mess of 8th (Yorkshire) Battalion The Light Infantry (Volunteers), Pontefract.

Glovers' Company

The following have been installed officers of the Glovers' Company for the ensuing year: Master, Mr D.M. Anderson; Renter Warden, Mr C.J. Wood; First Under Warden, Mr J. Gravit; Second Under Warden, Mr J.J. Gardner; Third Under Warden, Mr A. S. Fishman.

University news

Cambridge Dr Len Sealy, lecturer in law at Gonville and Caius College, has been elected the first S. J. Berwin professor of corporate law at Cambridge.

EWALD BUCHER

Ewald Bucher, former West German justice and housing minister, died on November 1 aged 77. He was born on July 19, 1914.

A ONE-TIME Nazi youth member, Ewald Bucher was a trained lawyer, front line soldier and a principled politician, who was once the chosen candidate of the liberal Free Democrats (FDP) to be president of West Germany. Born at Rottenburg into a strong Roman Catholic family, he studied law at Tübingen and then Munich from 1933-37. At 16 he had become a member of the Nazi Youth and in 1937 a full member of the party. Called up by the Wehrmacht in 1940, he served in the campaign against France before being granted leave to complete his legal training.

In 1943, he was again called up by the Bundeswehr and sent to the eastern front. Taken prisoner by the Americans, he was quickly released but for 18 months, while undergoing a denazification process, he was not allowed to practice law.

In 1950 he joined the FDP and within three years was elected to the Bundestag. He became leader of the FDP in the Bundestag in 1956 and a year later headed the house's legal committee.

He was promoted to the cabinet as justice minister by Konrad Adenauer in December 1962 as a direct result of the so-called "Spiegel affair", in which the news magazine's

publishers were arrested for treason after publishing a series of leaks about Germany's defence capability. In that capacity he had to deal with the aftermath of the affair and as a result tried unsuccessfully throughout 1963 to push forward legislation aimed at guaranteeing greater press freedom and protection for journalists' sources.

He argued that an independent judiciary needed to have an independent, probing press in order to show up the errors of justice and ensure that mistakes were made as infrequently as possible. The campaign he started eventually succeeded in winning far greater press freedom.

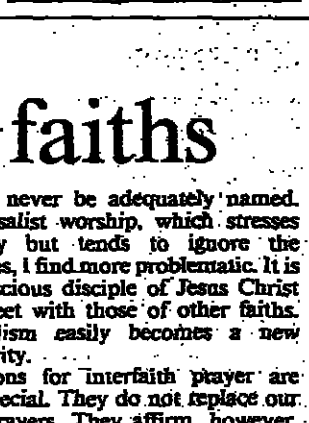
In 1964 he was chosen by his party to stand against the president in office, Heinrich Lübke. He never had a chance of winning but nevertheless stood for the principle that it would set a bad precedent if

Dr Lübke was given a second term unopposed. The following year he resigned from the cabinet on another point of principle. The Bundestag voted overwhelmingly to extend the statute of limitations on Nazi war crimes from 20 years to 30 years. As justice minister he had strongly opposed the change, arguing that there were constitutional objections, and that the courts could not ensure justice would be done. "The German people will have to live, conscious of the fact that there are murderers among them," he told the Bundestag. When members ignored his advice, he resigned.

In 1966 he was recalled to the cabinet as housing minister by Ludwig Erhard, but in the October he resigned along with all the other FDP ministers, in protest at the draft budget. This led to a three-year grand coalition between the Christian Democrats (CDU) and Social Democrats (SPD), the only time that the FDP ever served in opposition.

Bucher never returned to active politics. Dismayed by the FDP's decision in 1969 to form a government with the SPD, he quit the party in 1972, and joined the CDU, devoting himself thereafter to business and charity work as well as running a society which worked for the release of Rudolf Hess from Spandau.

Married with one son, he was a keen amateur musician.



Marcus Braybrooke

Disciple meeting other faiths

LAST night members of many faiths gathered at Christ Church, Bath, to pray for peace. They heard readings which included Rabbi Uziel's plea to his Arab brothers for peace, the story of Russian women feeding German soldiers who had devastated their country, and an account of Abdul Ghaffar Khan, the Parthian Gandhi. Everyone sang two hymns, "Turn back, O man" and "For the healing of the nations" and said the universal prayer for peace together. For the Christians taking part, this was a betrayal of the Prince of Peace or witness to God's yearning that all people should have peace and fullness of life?

Next month a Jew and a Christian will share at Christ Church in a service of blessing on their marriage. The distinctiveness of each faith will be affirmed, but also the oneness of God which the couple hope to mirror in their home.

My most moving experience of interfaith prayer was when I regularly visited a Jewish friend who was dying of cancer. There is no rabbi resident in Bath. My friend asked me to read the psalms and to pray with him, which I was glad to do. He even asked me to take his funeral. I demurred, but instead gave the eulogy.

A blanket ban on interfaith prayer, as suggested recently by the Open Letter group, would blind us to pastoral need and isolate Christians from the wider human community of which they are part. No one is suggesting that interfaith prayer should take the place of the regular liturgy and prayers of a particular faith community. This is why, in my interfaith work, I have valued being

based in a worshipping community. Yet there are many new situations for which there is no precedent and to which we asked to respond charitably and creatively.

There are different types of interfaith prayer, each with their own presuppositions about the relation of religions.

To attend the worship of another religion as a guest may just be an educational experience, which does not "legitimise" the other religion. Yet to my surprise, as I discovered when being invited to share in a Shinto rite, it may lead into an experience of the Divine. Surely our religions are not wholly impervious to each other?

If you invite guests of other faiths, should you adapt the liturgy? I recall that members of other faiths had been invited to an Anglican evensong. Some were taken aback when the clergyman said: "We shall now all stand and say the creed."

The serial type of service, in which there are a succession of readings, may only imply "parity of esteem" and no acceptance of the truth claims of other religions. At the World Day of Prayer at Assisi, we were, officially, only "together to pray" not "praying together", but many felt that the Spirit blurred such theological niceties.

Interfaith services are prepared as a unity. The distinctiveness of the great faiths is affirmed, but an underlying or mystical unity is also presupposed. All participants join together in some prayers. They assume that beyond our differences of dogma and ritual, we all seek to be open to the Divine Mystery

who can never be adequately named. Universalist worship, which stresses the unity but tends to ignore the differences, I find more problematic. It is as a conscious disciple of Jesus Christ that I meet with those of other faiths. Universalism easily becomes a new particularity.

Occasions for interfaith prayer are always special. They do not replace our regular prayers. They affirm, however, our God-given humanity and shared commitment to spiritual and moral values. In participating, I have felt myself to be sharing in the reconciling work of Christ, who seeks to break down all barriers and to reveal God's universal love.

Interfaith prayer is only one issue that divides "liberals" and "conservatives". They differ about the "ordination" of women, the marriage of the divorced, attitudes to homosexuality, the need to reinterpret doctrine, styles of leadership and social concerns. I pray the church will not split into a conservative and a liberal church. Indeed interfaith dialogue is as important as interfaith dialogue.

If we do discover how to cooperate whilst affirming our distinctive identity, we may learn something of relevance to the discussions about Europe and the Middle East. Perhaps learning to share with people of other faiths will help Anglicans learn how to live with each other.

Frederick Braybrooke is chairman of the Committee for 1993: A Year of Interreligious Understanding and Co-operation. He is also honorary minister of Christ Church, Bath.

Birthdays today

Mrs Jane Barker, finance director, London Stock Exchange, 43; Mr Harry Bramwell, director, Royal School of Church Music, 55; Lord Carr of Hadley, 75; Rear-Admiral Sir Nigel Cecil, 66; Lord Darnley, 77; Mr Ron Goodwood, former manager, England football team, 61; Sir Martin Jackson, deputy chairman, Barclays Bank, 62; Lord Jenkins of Hiredon, 71; Sir Harold Kent, QC, 88; Mr Rodney Marsh, cricketer, 44; Professor G.A.G. Mitchell, anatomist, 85; Dr J. Indraprasad, Patel, former director, London School of Economics and Political Science, 67; Professor C. Bruce Perry, physician, 88; Mr Richard Rowe, jockey, 33; Mr John Sheffield, former chairman, Naxos, 78; Sir Peter Shepherd, architect, 78; General Sir Walter Walker, 79; Miss June Whitfield, actress, 66; Lord Wolfson, 64.

Westminster Cathedral Choir School

The Choir will sing at the annual Christmas Celebration in the Cathedral at 7.00 pm, on Thursday, December 19, in the presence of the Duchess of Kent and the Cardinal Archbishop of Westminster. The following day the annual Mass for Choristers past and present will be held in the Cathedral at 5.30 pm. Tickets for the reception in the Archbishop's House afterwards may be obtained from the Headmaster. Voice trials for prospective choristers will be held on March 7, 1992. Details are available from the Headmaster.

6.00 Ceefax 5.30 BBC Breakfast News
9.05 Mury, Robert (Kerry) Silk chairs a discussion on whether information has taken the fun out of wearing fur
9.50 Hot Chets, Bruno Lambert prepares mushrooms and chestnuts on coals
10.00 News, regional news and weather 10.05 Playdays (r) 10.25 Superstars (r) 10.30 The Big Bang (r)
10.30 Antiques Roadshow Gena: Blooming Marvellous. Hugh Scully looks at the beauty of flowers, an inspiration to generations of artists, craftsmen and decorators
1.00 News, regional news and weather 1.10 No Kidding. Mike Smith hosts the family quiz show, assisted by Kate Copstick (s) 1.15 People Today. Presented by Miriam Stoppard and Adrian Mills
1.20 News, regional news and weather 1.25 Pebble Mill. Judi Spiers meets David McCallum, Mike McGann and Kenny Everett, the stars of Mike Smith's new musical, *Hunting for the Shark* 1.25 Regional news and weather
1.00 One O'Clock News and weather 1.30 Neighbours. (Ceefax) (s)
1.50 Going for Gold. The gregarious and gregarious Henry Kelly hosts another round of the European general knowledge quiz
2.15 Knaves. Leading. Just Desserts. West coast. *Calais* spin-off
3.00 Better Than New. Furniture renovation (r) 3.25 The Hogan Family: The Naked Truth. American comedy series
3.50 Children's BBC beginning with Penny Crayon. Cartoon (r) 4.00 Harman Scram. Picture book stories (s) 4.10 Quick Draw McGraw. Cartoon (r) 4.20 Walt on Earth. First episode of a science fiction comic thriller about an extra-terrestrial (s) 4.35 Teenage Mutant Hero Turtles. Cartoon adventures. (Ceefax)
4.55 Newsround with Juliet Morris 5.05 Blue Peter. (Ceefax) (s)
5.35 Neighbours (r). (Ceefax) (s). Northern Ireland: Inside Uster
6.00 Six O'Clock News with Peter Sissons and Maura Stuart. Weather 6.30 Regional news magazines. Northern Ireland: Neighbours (r)
7.00 Women with Salina Scott. Tonight's guests are Canadian star Bryan Adams, Chris Tarrant and hairdresser to the stars, Simon Forbes (s)
7.30 Watchdog. In National Consumer Week, Lynn Faulds Wood looks at the consequences of incompetently fitted car seats and John Stapleton examines claims made by manufacturers of hair-growing products
8.00 Telly Addicts. Quiz game hosted by Noel Edmunds
8.30 Lifesaver: Home Life
 ● CHOICE: The team that created the innovative *Supersense* brings the same subjective camera techniques to this new series, which sets out to look at human life through the eyes of animals. As before, the photography is often startling, not only getting closer to the animal world than the naked eye ever could but showing in intimate detail the activities of creatures such as dust-mites that normally would be invisible. Among much spectacular footage, the most exhilarating is that of a peregrine falcon slicing through the air at more than 100mph as it launches itself from the top of a New York skyscraper. No less impressive is a sequence in which a carpet beetle is sucked into the dust-bag of a vacuum cleaner and proceeds to make a meal of its contents. Some may feel that the programme is a random collection of snippets with no linking theme. With camerawork like this, it hardly matters. (Ceefax) Regional news and weather



First British television interview: Colonel Oliver North (9.30pm)

9.30 Panorama: The Colonel Regrets... Colonel Oliver North, a former White House aide and the man at the centre of the Iran-Contra affair, talks to Gavin Hewitt
10.10 Cop Rock: Cop-A-Feelings. Steven Bochco's innovative musical police drama series (s). Northern Ireland: The Stand; 10.50 James Johnston - Amongst the Greats
11.00 The Victorian Kitchen. Dinner. Ruth Mott prepares lamb roasted on a spit, and beef cooked in a braising pan (r). (Ceefax). Northern Ireland: 11.30 The Victorian Kitchen
11.00 See Hear! The magazine programme for the deaf community reports on the pioneering work of Ian Sullivan, founder of the Nambialli training centre for the deaf in India. With signing and subtitles (r). Northern Ireland: 12.00-12.30am See Hear
12.20am Weather

8.00 Breakfast News 8.15 Westminster. News from both Houses
8.30 After Dinner Co.. The first of three programmes in which Paul Henry cruises in the Solent in the wake of yachtsman and novelist K. Adlard Coles (r)
9.00 Daytime on 2. Educational programmes
2.00 News and weather followed by *Storytime* (r) 2.15 Regional Westminster Programmes (r). Northern Ireland: A Tale of Ireland 2.45 Joseph and Child. The story of Arthur Doyle's sculpture *Joseph and Child*
3.00 News and weather followed by Songs of Praise from the Church of St John (r). Evangelist, Acapungton (r). (Ceefax) (s) 3.40 Made by Hand. The work of the candlemaker 3.50 News, regional news and weather
4.00 Catchword. A new series of the word game, hosted by Paul Coia
4.30 Trivial Pursuit. Rory McGrath invites four more contestants to play the television version of the popular board game (r) (Ceefax)



Hosting a series of topical debates: Jane Corbin (5.00pm)

5.00 Behind the Headlines. The first of a new series of the weekday chat show hosted by Jane Corbin. With Shaun Woodward, Conservative party director of communications, and his Labour counterpart David Hill; Max Hastings, editor of the *Daily Telegraph*; John Seager, the BBC's chief political correspondent; and Denis Healey, former deputy leader of the Labour party
5.30 Dream Gardens. Author Leslie Thomas looks at Tresno, one of the Scilly Isles, to visit one of Britain's most exotic sub-tropical gardens (r)
6.00 Secret Nature. The second of six films about the relationship between man and wildlife. This week Andrew Cooper explores the natural history of a freshwater wetland created by a large mining operation (r)
6.35 DEE II begins with Fresh Prince of Bel-Air. Adventures of a streetwise from inner-city Pittsburgh who moves to respectable relations in California 7.00 Dance Energy presented by Normski. Includes a performance from Bizarre Inc (s)
7.30 Open Spaces: In Remembrance the Gulf War. A programme made by the Committee for Just Associations in the Middle East which argues that the Gulf war had catastrophic, but avoidable, consequences for the people and the environment of the area. (Ceefax)
8.00 Nature: No Home on the Range
 ● CHOICE: This wildlife-danger report differs from the usual snuff case for extermination seems overwhelming. We are in the north of Canada, where a national park is home to the world's last free-roaming herds of bison. But the animals are carrying brucellosis and tuberculosis and farmers fear the spread of these diseases from the wild bison to domestic herds. But there are no less cogent arguments on the other side, not least from local Indian communities who see the demise of the bison as a blow to their traditional culture. As the programme points out, the destruction of the bison, or buffalo, has painful associations with the white man's strategy for forcing the Indian tribes off their lands. The Canadian government wants to replace the diseased herds with healthy stock but again there are good reasons for opposing what would seem to be a sensible course. (Ceefax)
8.30 Film: Little Shop of Horrors (1986) starring Rick Moranis, Steve Martin, James Belushi and John Candy. Black and quirky musical comedy, based on an off-Broadway hit, itself inspired by Roger Corman's 1960 film, about a genius who discovers an evil-growing plant that craves human blood. Directed with relish by Frank Oz of *Muppets* fame
10.00 Naked Video. Comedy sketches from Scotland performed by Louise Breathe, Gregor Fisher, Andy Gray, Helen Lederer, Tony Roper, Elaine C. Smith and Jonathan Wray. (Ceefax) (s)
10.30 Newswatch with Sue Cameron
11.15 The Last Show. A review of Salman Rushdie's 1,000 days under the sentence of death (s)
11.55 Behind the Headlines. A repeat of the programme shown at 5.00
12.25am Weather

5.00 TV-am
 9.25 Jeopardy! Steve Jones provides the answers, the contestants try to work out the questions 9.55 Thames News and weather
10.00 The Time... The Place... Mike Scott chairs a discussion on a topical subject



This week's presenters: Derek and Ellen Jameson (10.40am)

10.40 This Morning. Family magazine series, presented this week by Derek Jameson and his wife Ellen. Includes music from Ben E. King and the first of the week's special reports from Kenya
12.10 Roast and Jim. Children's puppet series
12.30 News with John Suchet. (Oracle) Weather 1.10 Thames News and weather
1.20 Home and Away. Australian family drama series (Oracle) 1.50 A Country Practice. Medical drama (s)
2.20 Thames Help. Jackie Sprackley previews her week's series on the importance of carrying donor cards 2.50 A Place in the Sun. A third of a six-part series on holiday homes abroad examines the advantages of Cyprus
3.15 ITN News headlines 3.20 Thames News headlines 3.25 Families. Soap that links the north of England with Australia (s)
3.55 The Story Show, presented by Matthew Corbett (s) 4.15 They Took Adventure. Adventure series 4.40 Cartoon starring Bugs Bunny (r) 4.50 How 2. Young people's questions answered in an entertaining way
5.10 Blockbusters. General knowledge quiz for teenagers
5.40 News with Carol Bennis. (Oracle) Weather
5.55 Thames Help. Jackie Sprackley previews her week's series on the importance of being a donor - and carrying a donor's card
6.00 Home and Away (r). (Oracle)
6.30 Thames News and weather
7.00 The Krypton Factor. This last heat of group C features competitors from London, York, Birmingham and Portsmouth. (Oracle) (s)
7.30 Coronation Street. (Oracle)
8.00 Strike It Lucky. Quiz show introduced by Michael Barrymore (s)
8.30 World in Action: Selling Thatcher. A documentary about Mrs Thatcher's first year out of office during which she has travelled the world making lucrative speeches to businessmen and politicians. The programme also looks at the tangible tension between her supporters and those of her successor and explores the role played by her son Mark in the setting up of the Thatcher Foundation
9.00 Rumpole of the Bailey. John Mortimer's irascible advocate is persuaded by 'she who must be obeyed' to take a second honeymoon cruise in the Azores. His reluctance to mix with the other guests is stiffened when he notices that a fellow passenger is a judge with whom he has recently clashed - and lost - and informs Hilda that he is staying in his cabin until the next port of call. Starring Leo McKern, Marion Mathie and Robin Bailey (Oracle) (s)
10.00 News at Ten with Alastair Stewart and Trevor McDonald. (Oracle) Weather 10.30 Thames News and weather
10.40 Film: Murphy's Law (1986) starring Charles Bronson, Kathleen Winifred and Carrie Snodgrass. Formula police drama, strong on violence, about an officer on the trail of a psychotic murderer who is out to kill him and his colleagues. He is hampered by being handcuffed to a streetwise young woman criminal with a line in crude language. Directed by J. Lee Thompson
12.30am Sportsworld Extra. Action from the Diet Pepsi tennis Challenge from the NEC, Birmingham
1.30 The Tender Heart (1991) starring Joe E. Brown. Teenager set in late 19th century America about a fighting dog that escapes from its cruel master and is befriended by a preacher's son. Directed by Harold Schuster
3.00 American College Football. Georgia Tech v North Carolina State 4.00 Rock 'n' Roll Summit. A concert recorded in Moscow in June 1989 featuring performances by James Taylor, Santana, Bonnie Raitt, Autograph and the Doherty Brothers (s)
5.00 The Twilight Zone: Cat and Mice (s)
 ● CHOICE: A series of the supernatural about a shy young woman who becomes involved with a man who can turn himself into a cat (r)
5.30 ITN Morning News with Tim Nelson. Ends at 6.00

5.00 The Channel 4 Daily 9.25 Schools
12.00 Right to Reply introduced by Rory McGrath. Comedy programmes are commented on as are two editions of *Critical Eye* - *The Final Betrayal*, which is discussed by Kenton Laeks, refugee co-ordinator for the Hong Kong government, and *Battle of Orgreave: The Sequel* (r). (Teletext) (s)
12.30 Business Daily. The latest news from the world's money markets
1.00 Sesame Street. Pre-school learning series
2.00 Film: He Who Rides a Tiger (1988, b/w) starring Tom Bell and Judi Dench. Disappointingly clichéd crime drama about a burglar who is released from his latest jail sentence and becomes involved with an unnamed mother and her child. Directed by Charles Crichton
3.55 What the Eye Doesn't See. Puppet animation
4.00 Loads More Muck and Magic. Organic gardening series presented by Alan Gray, Rebecca Fow and Bob Sherman (r). (Teletext)
4.30 Fifteen-to-One. Fast-moving general knowledge quiz
5.00 The Late Late Show. Music and chat from Dublin
5.00 The Wonder Years. Award-winning comedy series about growing up in 1950s Adolescence. This week Alan (Fred Savage) sees his mother in another light when a friend of his develops a crush on her
6.30 Tonight With Jonathan Ross. For his last show from New York Ross welcomes actress and mother-to-be Meg Ryan and veteran crime writer Mickey Spillane. Plus Forever Field talking about the history of the Ed Sullivan Theatre (s)
7.00 Channel 4 News with Jon Snow and Zeinab Badawi. (Teletext) Weather 7.50 Comment
8.00 Brookside. Suburban Merseyside soap. (Teletext) (s)
8.30 Desmond's. Comedy series set in a south London barber's shop, starring Norman Beaton, Carmen Munroe and Ram John Holder. (Teletext) (s)



Maintained a Gulf war vigil: mother Julia Hermon (9.00pm)

9.00 Cutting Edge: Home Fires
 ● CHOICE: Malcolm Brinkworth's film offers the view of the Gulf war from the point of view of the women who stayed behind, joining the army implies having to go to a field of battle and risk being killed. Yet somehow no one expects it will actually happen. In January 1991 it did and the prospect was no less real for the wives and mothers than it was for the soldiers at the front. Brinkworth concentrates on the reactions of Diana Scott, wife of a regiment's commanding officer, Amanda Quicke, a squadron leader's wife, and Julie Hermon, mother of an 18-year-old soldier who had only been in the army a few months. The film charts the waiting and worrying, the anxious moments in front of the television set as the latest news comes through and the dread of hearing about the first casualties. Brinkworth also reveals that the ordeals did not necessarily end when the men returned. (Teletext)
10.00 The Gravy Train Goes East. Episode three of Malcolm Brinkworth's treacherous political comedy set in a fictitious Balkan state recently delivered from the shackles of Communism. Starring Ian Richardson, Christoph Waltz and Francesca Annis. (Teletext) (s)
11.00 4-Thought: The Knowledge. The second in a series of four experimental current affairs programmes presented by Martin Jacques, editor of *Marxism Today*. Jane Robins, a former foreign correspondent, and Matt Ridley, US editor of *The Economist*
11.35 Tonight With Jonathan Ross. A repeat of the programme shown at 6.30
12.00am Film: Komitas (1989) starring Samuel Oshagan. A film directed by Don Askanian in dedication to Solomon Soghomonyan, also known as Komitas, an Armenian monk and composer who devoted much of his life to preserving traditional Armenian music. In Russian with English subtitles. Ends at 1.50

ITV VARIATIONS

ANGLIA
 As London except 2.20pm Gardens for All 2.50-3.15 Graham Kerr 6.25-7.00 Anglia News 10.40 Journeys 11.10 The Hit Men and Her 5.05-5.30 Jobfinder
BORDER
 As London except 1.50pm-1.15 You Can't Escape Forever 5.10-5.40 Home and Away 5.40-6.00 Lorraine 6.30-7.00 Take the High Road 10.00 Film: Cruise Missile (Peter Graves, Curt Jurgens) 12.30am Superstars 1.30 Stephen King's This is Horror 2.00 Film: Frankenstein and the Monster from Hell (Shane Stamp, Peter Cushing) 3.40 America's Top Ten 4.10 The Hit Men and Her 5.05-5.30 Jobfinder
CENTRAL
 As London except 2.20pm Graham Kerr 2.45-3.15 Coming of Age 5.10-5.40 Gardens for All 6.25-7.00 News 10.40 The Hit Men and Her 5.05-5.30 Jobfinder
GRANADA
 As London except 1.50pm-1.15 Film Escape by Night 3.15 Escape by Night 3.25-3.55 News and Childrens 5.10-5.40 Animals Country 6.30-7.00 Granada Tonight 10.40

HTV WEST
 As London except 1.50pm The Survivors 5.10-5.40 Home and Away 8.00 HTV News 6.35-7.00 What's On?
HTV WALES
 As HTV West except 6.00pm Wales at Six 6.30-7.00 Primetime
TSW
 As London except 2.20pm-2.50 The Young Doctors 3.25-3.55 Home and Away 5.10-5.40 Families 6.00 TSW Today 6.30-7.00 The TSW Documentary Six of the Best 10.40 Premier: Call Block 11.15-11.35 Mental Britain: The Last Victory 12.30am Superstars of Wrestling 1.30 Stephen King's This is Horror 2.00 Film: Frankenstein and the Monster from Hell 3.40 America's Top Ten 4.10 The Hit Men and Her 5.05-5.30 TSW Jobfinder
TWS
 As London except 2.15pm Coast to Coast 2.45-3.15 Antenna 3.15-3.45 Antenna 3.45-4.15 Antenna 4.15-4.45 Antenna 4.45-5.15 Antenna 5.15-5.45 Antenna 5.45-6.15 Antenna 6.15-6.45 Antenna 6.45-7.15 Antenna 7.15-7.45 Antenna 7.45-8.15 Antenna 8.15-8.45 Antenna 8.45-9.15 Antenna 9.15-9.45 Antenna 9.45-10.15 Antenna 10.15-10.45 Antenna 10.45-11.15 Antenna 11.15-11.45 Antenna 11.45-12.15 Antenna 12.15-12.45 Antenna 12.45-1.15 Antenna 1.15-1.45 Antenna 1.45-2.15 Antenna 2.15-2.45 Antenna 2.45-3.15 Antenna 3.15-3.45 Antenna 3.45-4.15 Antenna 4.15-4.45 Antenna 4.45-5.15 Antenna 5.15-5.45 Antenna 5.45-6.15 Antenna 6.15-6.45 Antenna 6.45-7.15 Antenna 7.15-7.45 Antenna 7.45-8.15 Antenna 8.15-8.45 Antenna 8.45-9.15 Antenna 9.15-9.45 Antenna 9.45-10.15 Antenna 10.15-10.45 Antenna 10.45-11.15 Antenna 11.15-11.45 Antenna 11.45-12.15 Antenna 12.15-12.45 Antenna 12.45-1.15 Antenna 1.15-1.45 Antenna 1.45-2.15 Antenna 2.15-2.45 Antenna 2.45-3.15 Antenna 3.15-3.45 Antenna 3.45-4.15 Antenna 4.15-4.45 Antenna 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War dead honoured behind tight security screen

By MICHAEL HORSNELL

THE Queen led the nation's homage at the Cenotaph yesterday to the dead of two world wars and more recent conflicts after an enormous security ring had been thrown around Whitehall.

Old soldiers and young, men and women with medals and memories packed behind crash barriers to watch the first Remembrance Sunday service since the Gulf war. Everyone entering the area either side of the Cenotaph had to pass through airport-style electronic security doors, and all spectators were rigorously screened and searched as police tried to prevent a repeat of last year's horror when a man set himself on fire at the event over his fears of a war in the Gulf.

Armed police watched from rooftops of government buildings as thousands of ex-servicemen and women, with members of the royal family, political leaders and representatives of foreign governments, stood for the two minutes' silence.

The political detachment included John Major, Margaret Thatcher, this year in the second row, Neil Kinnock, Paddy Ashdown, other party leaders and past prime ministers, Lord Wilson and Edward Heath. On Foreign Office balconies were the Queen Mother, the Princess of Wales — in a broad-brimmed, black, matador hat — the Princess Royal, the Duke and Duchess of Gloucester, the Duchess of Kent, Princess Alice, Princess Alexandra and Sir Angus Ogilvy.

The Duchess of York, who is in Canada, will lay a wreath during a Remembrance Day ceremony in Ottawa today.

Two men were arrested after the ceremonies, for attempting to dig up turf at the defence ministry in Whitehall but, that apart, the service passed without trouble.

Old soldiers in Lincoln, however, boycotted a Remembrance Day service because they were forced to retreat to the back row. Officials at Lincoln Cathedral were criticised for reserving front seats for senior Army officers and civic dignitaries.

Veterans have decided to assemble at another church next year for their own separate service. Sid Lewis, aged 69, president of the Lincoln branch of the Burma Star Association, who fought behind Japanese lines in the second world war, said: "Over the past three years we have been pushed further and further to the back." A cathedral spokesman said: "I am afraid the rules of protocol regarding top ranks of the services and civic dignitaries must be observed."



Regal homage: the Princess of Wales, left, and the Princess Royal watch from a Foreign Office balcony



Leaders remember: Paddy Ashdown, Neil Kinnock and John Major wait to lay wreaths



Para poppy: Parachute Regiment comrades master in Horseguards before the parade

Powell urges anti-EC voting

Continued from page 1

words "Vote Labour". Mr Powell said yesterday of his interventions in the 1974 elections. He had clearly calculated the effect of his words and admitted yesterday that there had been communication between himself and the Labour party over the content and timing of speeches that led to headlines such as "Clear 'Vote Labour' call by Powell".

Three days before polling day in the February 1974 election, Mr Powell said that the vital difference between the two main parties was that if the Conservatives won a majority, the question of Britain and the Common Market would be settled irrevocably. "On the other side there is a

more open chance. There is a commitment [fundamental negotiation of the UK's terms of entry] as firm and explicit as can practically be given or demanded," he said.

In that speech, at Shipley, Yorkshire, he foreshadowed many of the arguments presently used by those opposed to economic and political union by warning the country that such a development could render Britain a province of a European superstate in which economic decisions had passed from the hands of the British electorate and, with them, the lion's share of political decisions generally.

In the October 1974 election, he again intervened, pointing to Labour's pledge to

hold a referendum on the EC. Asked whether he was advising people to vote Labour, Mr Powell said: "I should have thought that was the clear implication..."

Yesterday, Mr Powell said that although he had never used the words "Vote Labour" in speeches in the 1974 elections, he had implied that people should vote for that party. "They were committed to a renegotiation of our terms of entry and a referendum which was tantamount to coming out of the EC," he said. Mr Powell added: "Harold Wilson did a U-turn on it, which he may always have intended to do."

Peter Kilduff, page 16

Israel honours Maxwell

Continued from page 1

had acquired. British socialists rubbed shoulders with Israeli ministers while Jewish children from Chernobyl, rescued by Mr Maxwell's intervention, waited to pay their respects beside Japanese businessmen. "I never met him, but I know he was a good Jew; he helped me to come here from Russia and it is my duty to pay my respects today," said one mourner.

In a scene which encapsulated Mr Maxwell's ability to cross ideological barriers between East and West, Moshe Nissim, Israel's deputy premier, Moshe Arens, defence minister, Ariel Sharon, housing minister, Yitzhak Mordechai, minister of finance, Mark Elliott, the

Moscow-based KGB officer who had once represented Mr Maxwell's Pergamon Press. "Maxwell was one of the first to come to the Soviet Union," Mr Lui said. "He understood how the system worked and said to me that, if he had stayed on in the Soviet Union instead of going to the West, he was sure he would have become an important Communist party chief."

Also among those attending the funeral or the lying in state were Mr Maxwell's four daughters and three sons: Moshe Nissim, Israel's deputy premier; Moshe Arens, defence minister; Ariel Sharon, housing minister; Yitzhak Mordechai, minister of finance; Mark Elliott, the

ambassador; David MacLellan, consul-general, representing the British government; and Gerald Kaufman, shadow foreign secretary, representing the Labour party.

Among the Maxwell family friends were Lord Cogan, the former Archbishop of Canterbury; Gail Ronson, wife of the financier Gerald Ronson; and Sir Michael Richardson, Mr Maxwell's personal banker. Jewish children, exposed to radiation from the 1986 nuclear disaster at Chernobyl, were among the 200 children brought to Israel for treatment at Maxwell's expense, also attended.

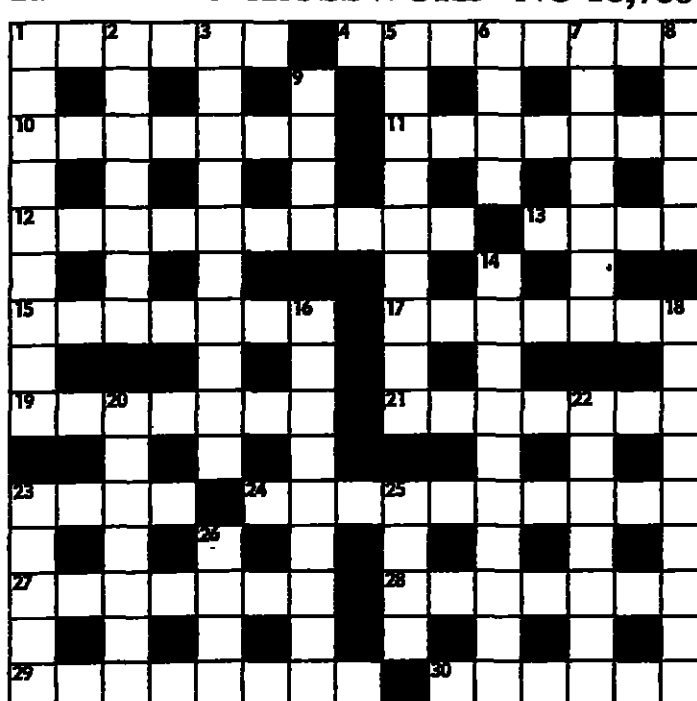
Leading article, page 17

Enquiries continue

ENQUIRIES into the death of Robert Maxwell are to continue and the crew of his yacht has been ordered to remain on the Canary Islands (Ray Clancy writes).

Last night Julio Hernandez Claverie, a lawyer acting for the Maxwell family, said that the crew members had been told by Judge Isabel Oliva that she may need to see them again. Statements made last week needed to be ratified and further questions were likely. Speculation continued at the weekend when it was reported that a doctor who had treated Mr Maxwell for many years did not believe he had a heart complaint.

THE TIMES CROSSWORD NO 18,760



- ACROSS**
- Brisk look about a game (6).
 - Main race possibly in the United States (8).
 - Train and back oriental group with little hesitation (7).
 - Rushed around a woman, so got across (7).
 - Endurance shown by individual in French church (10).
 - A colourful setting for any pupil (4).
 - Empty flat (7).
 - A bolster the ordinary seaman finds quite suitable (7).
 - Fish catches shown in stones (7).
 - Check sailors on the way back are more cheerful (7).
 - Hard cash (4).
 - The grouch, in other words, cannot melt (10).
 - Hellenic heroine chosen by certain soldiers (7).
- DOWN**
- A lad required to gut fish (9).
 - Star workers are given accommodation (7).
 - Long drink incorporating very soft fruit (10).
 - People of note (9).
 - Bring up the right to a listening device (4).
 - Are able to dance, but only for a spell (7).
 - A fellow climbing with 4 in a difficult situation (5).
 - Holiday charge around the end of August (4).
 - Nice garden created by a younger relative (5-9).
 - The underworld, being on the level, scuffed — so incongruous (9).
 - Rack for supporting a casualty (9).
 - There's some purpose in ripped clothing (7).
 - ... to repeat, there's a point in ragged attire (7).
 - Figure on a Shakespearean role, being free (5).
 - The ship's company sounded exultant (4).
 - It could well break out in Vietnam (4).



The solution of Saturday's Prize Puzzle No 18,759 will appear next Saturday. The 5 winners will receive a Duofold fountain pen supplied by Parker.

A daily safari through the language jungle. Which of the possible definitions are correct?
By Philip Howard

- CHI CHIS**
- A sausage
 - A lady-killer
 - A dance step
- CHICHOE**
- A male child-minder
 - A foot insect
 - A South American hookah
- CHICK**
- An American lodging
 - A tense
 - A Saharan sand storm
- CICISBEISM**
- A fiddle-faking
 - A rather nasty habit
 - Existentialist philosophy

Answers on page 30, column 1

AA ROADWATCH

For the latest AA traffic and roadwork information, 24 hours a day, dial 0836 401 followed by the appropriate code

| London & SE | 731 |
|-------------------------------|-----|
| C London (within N & S Ceres) | 731 |
| M-ways/roads M4-M11 | 732 |
| M-ways/roads M1-Dartford T | 733 |
| M-ways/roads Dartford T-M23 | 734 |
| M-ways/roads M23-M4 | 735 |
| M25 London Orbital only | 736 |

National motorways

| | |
|--------------------|-----|
| North-west England | 737 |
| West Country | 738 |
| Wales | 739 |
| Midlands | 740 |
| East Anglia | 741 |
| North-east England | 742 |
| Scotland | 743 |
| Northern Ireland | 744 |
| 745 | |

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THE LAST WORD IN CIGARS

CHAMBORD

COMPLIMENTS OF HENRI WINTERMANN

Cloudy over southern Britain, with some heavy rain, although not reaching the South-East until later. Possibility of sleet and wet snow over hillier areas. Over Scotland and Northern Ireland there will be some showers, mostly in northern and western areas, with many eastern parts staying dry and fairly sunny. Windy with gales in northwest Scotland. Outlook: cool, windy with rain almost everywhere.

RECORD

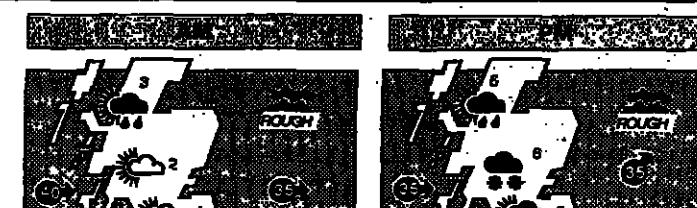
MIDDAY: 1-4 thunder; 5-6 drizzle; 7-9 fog; 10-11 sun; 12-13 rain; 14-15 sun; 16-17 sun; 18-19 sun; 20-21 sun; 22-23 sun; 24-25 sun; 26-27 sun; 28-29 sun; 30 sun

| City | Temp | Wind | Cloud |
|------------|------|------|-------|
| London | 12 | 10 | 100 |
| Birmingham | 11 | 10 | 100 |
| Manchester | 10 | 10 | 100 |
| Edinburgh | 9 | 10 | 100 |
| Glasgow | 8 | 10 | 100 |
| Belfast | 7 | 10 | 100 |
| Cardiff | 6 | 10 | 100 |
| Sheffield | 5 | 10 | 100 |
| Nottingham | 4 | 10 | 100 |
| Leeds | 3 | 10 | 100 |
| York | 2 | 10 | 100 |
| Lincoln | 1 | 10 | 100 |
| Nottingham | 0 | 10 | 100 |
| Leeds | -1 | 10 | 100 |
| York | -2 | 10 | 100 |
| Lincoln | -3 | 10 | 100 |
| Nottingham | -4 | 10 | 100 |
| Leeds | -5 | 10 | 100 |
| York | -6 | 10 | 100 |
| Lincoln | -7 | 10 | 100 |
| Nottingham | -8 | 10 | 100 |
| Leeds | -9 | 10 | 100 |
| York | -10 | 10 | 100 |
| Lincoln | -11 | 10 | 100 |
| Nottingham | -12 | 10 | 100 |
| Leeds | -13 | 10 | 100 |
| York | -14 | 10 | 100 |
| Lincoln | -15 | 10 | 100 |
| Nottingham | -16 | 10 | 100 |
| Leeds | -17 | 10 | 100 |
| York | -18 | 10 | 100 |
| Lincoln | -19 | 10 | 100 |
| Nottingham | -20 | 10 | 100 |
| Leeds | -21 | 10 | 100 |
| York | -22 | 10 | 100 |
| Lincoln | -23 | 10 | 100 |
| Nottingham | -24 | 10 | 100 |
| Leeds | -25 | 10 | 100 |
| York | -26 | 10 | 100 |
| Lincoln | -27 | 10 | 100 |
| Nottingham | -28 | 10 | 100 |
| Leeds | -29 | 10 | 100 |
| York | -30 | 10 | 100 |

For the latest region by region forecast, 24 hours a day, dial 0855 500 followed by the appropriate code.

TOURIST RATES

| City | Rate |
|-------------|------|
| Australia | 2.20 |
| Austria | 2.10 |
| Belgium | 2.10 |
| Canada | 2.10 |
| Denmark | 1.10 |
| France | 1.10 |
| Germany | 1.10 |
| Greece | 1.10 |
| Hong Kong | 1.10 |
| India | 1.10 |
| Italy | 1.10 |
| Japan | 1.10 |
| Netherlands | 1.10 |
| Portugal | 1.10 |
| Spain | 1.10 |
| Sweden | 1.10 |
| Switzerland | 1.10 |
| Turkey | 1.10 |
| USA | 1.10 |
| Yugoslavia | 1.10 |



Temperatures at midday yesterday: a, cloud; b, rain; c, sun.

London 4.15 pm to 7.15 am; Bristol 4.35 pm to 7.25 am; Manchester 4.15 pm to 7.25 am; Perth 4.45 pm to 7.30 am.

Sun rises: 7.11 am; Sun sets: 4.19 pm.

First Quarter November 14.

Yesterday: Temp: max 6 am to 6 pm, 10°C (40°F); min 6 pm to 6 am, 10°C (40°F); Rain: 24hr to 6 pm, 0.10 in; Sun: 24hr to 6 pm, nil.

Today: AM HT PM HT; Tomorrow: AM HT PM HT.

Low: 1016; High: 1018.

Winds: 1016; 1018.

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Jobless increase curbs earnings

By PHILIP BASSETT
INDUSTRIAL EDITOR

RISING unemployment is forcing down earnings increases across the country, with the regions showing the highest jobless increases seeing the lowest rises in earnings, according to the latest analysis of unemployment carried out by *The Times*.

The findings of *The Times* analysis will be welcome news for ministers, who are bracing themselves not only for a further increase in overall unemployment this week but for a higher rise than last month in jobless figures.

Data to be published by the government on Thursday are expected to show a further rise in seasonally adjusted unemployment, though the number out of work is not likely to breach 2.5 million this month. Unemployment in September rose by 35,700 — a much lower increase than previous months. But neither the government nor the City expects the rise for October to be as low. Most predict a rise of at least 40,000, although the Treasury expects the rate of increase to moderate more.

Average earnings increases are also expected to show no change from a 7.5 per cent rise. Michael Howard, the employment secretary, will defend the government's policies on jobs and training even though this month's increase in unemployment is likely to run counter to the falling trend of the last few months. But *The Times* latest monthly jobless analysis suggests that Whitehall's hopes of earnings moderation in the face of rising unemployment are being borne out.

Using forthcoming government figures from the latest part of the annual new earnings survey, to be published in full next week, *The Times* computer-based analysis sets earnings increases for the year to April 1991, the date of the survey snapshot on pay, against rises in unemployment over the period — the first 12 months of the current run of increases, which will stretch to 19 months this week.

Broadly, the analysis shows that across the country, unemployment is pushing down earnings. Areas with the highest rates of increase in unemployment have seen the lowest rates of increase in earnings, and vice versa.

The South-east outside London, for example, saw the highest rise in unemployment, 9.4 per cent. But its earnings increase at 7.8 per cent was below the average, and placed it seventh in the regional earnings increase league table. At the other end of the scale, areas with the lowest rises in unemployment, such as Scotland, the North and the Northwest, have seen the highest rises in earnings. In the North, for example, where unemployment rose by 17 per cent across the period, earnings rose by 9 per cent was the second-highest regional rise.

Areas that have done relatively well in the earnings-jobs trade-off include the east Midlands: men in Wales, who have seen below-average rises in unemployment and above-average increases in earnings; and women in the west Midlands, who were a below-average seventh in their jobless increase at 24 per cent, and had the highest increase in female earnings, 11.8 per cent.

ICI told its unions at the weekend of 2,000 more jobs to go in its 12,000-strong chemicals and polymers division.

CHANGE ON WEEK

THE POUND

US dollar
1.7695 (+0.0210)
German mark
2.9037 (-0.0023)
Exchange index
91.2 (+0.4)
Bank of England official
close (4pm)

STOCK MARKET

FT 30 share
1975.5 (+22.8)
FT-SE 100
2559.0 (+9.5)
New York Dow Jones
3045.62 (-10.73)
Tokyo Nikkei Avge
24486.49 (-557.75)

***** RM

Lamont aims for strong rise in growth rate

By ANATOLE KALETSKY, ECONOMICS EDITOR

NORMAN Lamont, the Chancellor, said yesterday that the economic recovery will accelerate next year and Britain will eventually enjoy a rapid expansion above the economy's long-term trend growth rate.

In his most bullish analysis of economic conditions since he became Chancellor, Mr Lamont dropped several hints that economic figures to be published over the next few weeks would show clearer signs of economic expansion. Mr Lamont also suggested repeatedly in a television interview that the Treasury would not be satisfied with a recovery that merely returned Britain to its long-term trend growth rate of about 2.5 per cent.

Asked when the public sector borrowing would start falling back towards zero, the Chancellor said that this depended on "when the economy reverts to above-trend growth". Mr Lamont kept alive Conservative hopes of tax cuts before the next election. He said that further reductions in the standard rate of income tax would not necessarily have to wait until the government had once more eradicated the public sector borrowing requirement.

Borrowing is expected to nearly double in 1992-3 but Mr Lamont, who said that the government would only make further moves towards its target of reducing the standard rate from 25p to 20p when it was prudent to do so, said that there did not have to be a balanced budget every year. Tax cuts would not necessarily require a zero PSBR.

Until recently, most private economists had assumed that membership of the exchange-rate mechanism would limit Britain's economic growth to the long-term "trend" rate of about 2½ per cent. This would allow unemployment to be

stabilised, but it would not be compatible with a significant fall in unemployment. To put the jobless back to work requires a period of "unsustainable" growth above the economy's long-term trend.

Until yesterday, government economists were careful to avoid references to above-trend or unsustainable growth in their comments.

But the Treasury forecasts published with the autumn statement last week showed the economy growing at an annualised rate of 3.1 per cent in the second half of 1992 and consumption to rise at a 3.5 per cent rate in this period. Such a recovery should allow unemployment to start falling next year, and not just to stabilise as most economists had expected. Mr Lamont's repeated references to above-trend growth, as well as several predictions that the recovery would "accelerate" and "gather pace" next year, suggested that Treasury economists were growing more optimistic about Britain's capacity to sustain a period of rapid growth and thus to achieve a full recovery from recession.

In fact, speaking on BBC TV's *On the Record*, the Chancellor made clear that a period of rapid growth would now be necessary not only to



Lamont: hopes of tax cuts

reduce unemployment but also to meet the government's long-term fiscal objectives. When asked when he hoped to return to zero public sector borrowing, as promised by the government's fiscal strategy, the Chancellor replied: "It depends at what point the economy moves to trend growth, and when it moves to above trend growth".

In the short-term, the Chancellor hinted that the unexpectedly sharp fall in industrial production reported last month would be reversed when the latest figures were published this week. The August figures, published last month, showed a 1.5 per cent fall in industrial output and a 1.1 per cent decline in manufacturing production. But the Chancellor said yesterday that statistics on manufacturing output, retail sales and exports gave grounds for optimism that the economy was emerging from recession.

Friday's publication of the retail prices index had been pencilled in by many City analysts as a possible opportunity for the Chancellor to sanction a cut in bank base rates from 10½ to 10 per cent. But Treasury sources indicated over the weekend that such a move was unlikely. Small businesses are starting to shake off the effects of the recession, with confidence among smaller companies improving for the first time for three years (Philip Bassett writes).

In a survey published today, KPMG Peat Marwick, the accountant, shows that the number of companies going into liquidation in England and Wales has dropped to its lowest level in more than a year.

In a separate study, the CBI uses previously-published data from its quarterly industrial trends survey to show an improvement in business confidence in line with the increase for industry overall.

High street banks 'do not run uncompetitive cartel'

By OUR ECONOMICS EDITOR

BRITAIN'S banking system has become significantly more competitive as a result of the deregulation of the Eighties and it is no longer accurate to describe the big four clearing banks as an oligopoly, the Bank of England says today.

In an article to be published in its *Quarterly Bulletin* this week, the Bank does not refer to the recent political controversy over bank services to small business customers — but its conclusions implicitly reject claims that Britain's banks have been acting as an uncompetitive cartel.

The article, which is based on an analysis of publicly available data issued by the big four clearing banks between 1970 and 1990, says that the "highly structured" and "remarkably stable" banking system that evolved between the second world war

and the late Sixties changed into a radically more competitive market environment in the past two decades.

The declining profits from traditional lending businesses have encouraged banks to diversify their activities and accelerate the growth of their balance sheets. But this has entailed increasing risks, as demonstrated by large losses from Third World lending and recent domestic bad debts. In future, the banks are likely to respond to competition and pressures to raise capital by putting "much greater emphasis on cost control", by questioning whether new business justified the required capital, and by diversifying into less capital-intensive fee-earning businesses like insurance.

The Bank says in its article that the big four banks have experienced intense competi-

tion from the building societies and foreign banks. As a result, the Bank concludes, "banking markets have become either more competitive or more contestable".

The article says that banks' net interest margins fell sharply, especially on domestic business, from 1987 to 1990, because of heightened competition for loans and the banks' increased targeting of loan margin business such as mortgages and lending to large corporations.

Responding to these forces, the banks have shifted their strategies from reliance on interest income to the steady expansion of fee-earning business. In the Seventies, interest provided 80 per cent of total bank income, but by 1990 this had declined to 60 per cent.

Record liquidations, page 24

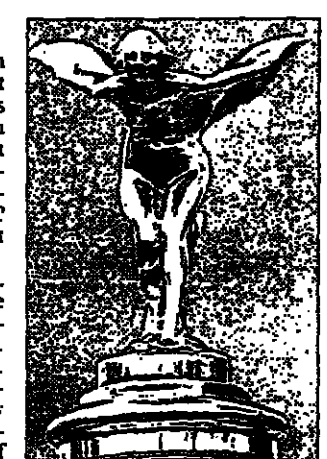
Dog's life for a 3-D trademark

By OUR INDUSTRIAL EDITOR

THINK of an Old English sheepdog, and which paint comes to mind? Which car is prompted by the image of a silvered flying lady? What brand of fizzy cola is inextricably linked to an elegantly waisted glass bottle? (Hint: the answers are not Crown, Bentley and Pepsi.)

After years of advertising, most people recognise these symbols immediately. Commercial symbols they may be. Legal trademarks they are not. Whether or not Coke's famous bottle could be legally defined as a trademark eventually went to the House of Lords. The Dulux dog and the Rolls-Royce spirit of ecstasy bonnet mascot are three-dimensional, so under trademark law do not count as trademarks. What are registered as trademarks are photographs of the dog and the flying lady.

Britain's trademark guard-



Flying Lady: not covered. Ians are disappointed that the government's legislative programme, as laid out in the recent Queen's speech, contained no bill to reform trademark law. They know why: an election approach, they recognise trademark law is a

far from gripping public issue with no votes in it.

But the Trade Marks Patents and Designs Federation, which safeguards the intellectual property interests of United Kingdom industry and commerce, believes the government's failure to find time for a bill on trademarks will not only leave Britain with "woefully inadequate" law on the issue, but is likely to place it in conflict with Europe, since the EC is requiring all member states to implement a harmonisation directive on trademarks by the year end.

"As a result", says David Tatham, vice-president of the federation and group trademark agent for ICI, "British companies are increasingly likely to find themselves at a disadvantage against European competitors".

After a weekend meeting of the federation to protest about new law not being brought forward, Mr Tatham will be in

Knotty problem for Ofgas



Conundrum over competition: James McKinnon, director general of Ofgas

BRITISH Gas will this week enter make-or-break talks with the Office of Fair Trading in an effort to defuse the threat that the company's monopoly will be referred to the Monopolies and Mergers Commission (Ross Tienman writes).

The OFT has taken soundings with James McKinnon, director general of Ofgas, the industry watchdog, over the likely terms of a reference. Mr McKinnon would prefer to avoid an enquiry, fearing it would delay competition.

Mr McKinnon is determined to ensure British Gas is opened up to competition as soon as a squeeze on availability of gas supplies, expected between now and the mid-Nineties is past. "I think we could see ordinary households buying gas from competitor companies by 1996," he said.

Large domestic customers, such as families with a swimming pool to heat, may benefit sooner. Last week, in an announcement that infuriated British Gas, Peter Lilley, the trade secretary, said the threshold at which competition is allowed would fall from 25,000 to 2,500 therms a year as soon as practicable.

The decision cuts the proportion of British Gas sales protected by monopoly from more than 55 per cent to below 49 per cent. Although British Gas welcomes Mr Lilley's promise of consultation, the beleaguered company believes hitherto its views have been ignored.

The company is preparing to counter moves to end its monopoly by warning that competition would force the company to charge customers by location. It also wants an end to its duty to connect a household upon demand. Privatisation of electricity supply has benefited customers and investors. A Focus on Power Generation sees new challenges. Pages 31 to 34

Weinstock rules out any bid for BAe

By JONATHAN PRYNN

LORD Weinstock, the managing director of GEC, yesterday for the first time publicly ruled out a takeover bid for British Aerospace and said he would prefer to see joint ventures between the two companies.

Interviewed by the *Money Programme* on BBC2, he said: "We do not have it in mind to bid." BAe has been in turmoil since the departure of Professor Sir Roland Smith as chairman in September and after a failed rights issue last month. Speculation about a possible bid reached a peak

after BAe's boardroom coup, provoking interventions from the London Stock Exchange and the Takeover Panel.

Lord Weinstock said yesterday: "The first circumstance is that they should need us and that they should want us. I don't think that anything can be done in a constructive way, the sort that we would have in mind, without their willing co-operation." On joint ventures, he added: "There's no particular hurry but we would like those relationships to develop further."

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Europe to put pressure on UK for freer postal service

By PHILIP BASSETT
INDUSTRIAL EDITOR

THE government is likely to come under pressure from Brussels, in a long-awaited initiative on postal competition across Europe, over its now-postponed plans to introduce more competition into Britain's postal services.

Peter Lilley, the trade and industry secretary, has publicly acknowledged that moves to open up the Royal Mail to competition, signalled by the prime minister in the summer at the launch of the citizen's charter, will not take place before a general election.

Ministers claim the delay is due to a lack of parliamentary time, but Whitehall insiders say it is because they are unclear about how to increase competition.

Changing the Post Office's letter monopoly would need primary legislation in the Commons, and ministers are thought to fear adverse backbench reaction — especially from Conservative MPs — to any moves that might reduce universally-available postal services in Britain.

Aware of these restrictions, some senior Post Office managers believe that not only will there be no legislation before the election, but that a new Conservative government



Keeping posted: Sir Bryan is "ahead of the game"

would not move speedily on the issue even if re-elected. However, while the domestic market has put the domestic issue on the backburner, Europe may step up the pressure for greater postal competition with the publication shortly of a much-delayed green paper. The document

was promised in September last year but has been subject to fierce fighting in Brussels.

Brussels now suggests, however, that the paper will be published at the end of this month, and will be formally considered by a meeting of European telecommunications ministers on December 5.

Despite the opposition of France and most countries in southern Europe, the green paper is expected to favour increased competition in postal services, in line with the position taken by Britain and the Netherlands.

The line of the green paper may not sit easily with the UK government's postponement of competitive moves, but Sir Bryan Nicholson, the Post Office chairman, forecast yesterday that it would be behind the planned moves, and actual steps already put in place, by the Royal Mail.

Speaking to *The Times*, he said: "We will find that others will be catching up with us. Whatever is likely to emerge, we are almost certainly likely to be ahead of the game."

Sir Bryan said there had been no response from ministers yet to his proposal for a gradual reduction of the Post Office letter monopoly, reducing the level at first from £1 a letter to 50p and then reviewing the position.

Managers see no need for new union law

EMPLOYER opposition to the government's latest proposals for new trade union law continues to mount, with the latest attack from the British Institute of Management (BIM) which today says only a quarter of managers in Britain believe there is a need for further legislation.

The adverse comments by the BIM, which warned the government to "stop bashing the unions", follow criticism of Whitehall's proposals from the Institute of Personnel Management and marked opposition to some of them from the Confederation of British Industry.

In the history of the government's union legislation since 1980, no set of proposals has provoked more opposition from employers than the suggested measures in the latest green paper on unions.

According to a BIM survey of a representative sample of 600 managers, two thirds believe the current balance of trade union legislation is about right. Only a quarter feel there is an immediate need for further legislation.

Peter Benton, BIM director-general, says: "Industrial relations in Britain are as good as they have ever been. Managers are concerned that bringing in further legislation could jeopardise a hard-won peace."

Rover trains 3,000 in drive to become world beater

By KEVIN EASON
MOTORING CORRESPONDENT

ROVER is taking more than 3,000 workers off assembly lines and out of offices in one of Britain's biggest training programmes in an attempt to become one of the world's most efficient car makers.

Hundreds of staff are being sent to study assembly and management techniques in companies around the world. George Simpson, Rover's chairman, ordered the sweep of world industry to raise efficiency of group operations by 30 per cent in four years.

Staff have visited Honda, Rover's collaborative partner in Japan, as well as companies such as IBM, Sony and J Sainsbury.

Tomorrow, the first example of how effective Rover's drive has been will be highlighted by the launch of the Rover 800 executive car.

The experiment was vital to Rover's future with £600 million worth of investment to be spent on three more models by the mid-Nineties, raising Rover's annual output by a potential 150,000 cars.

The Rover 800 was designed and built in just two years, compared with the usual 39-month lead time at Rover and 35-month average for Japanese manufacturers.

Car makers traditionally start with a design, later adding engineering, drawing in component firms and then hand over a prototype to assembly managers to build the model. The result has often been an unhappy design compromise, poor quality and a long product lead time.

With the Rover 800, Mr Simpson decided to run de-



How the Rover 800 has set new product times from design to assembly

| | |
|-------------------------------------|-----------|
| Rover 800 | 24 months |
| Average Japanese manufacturers | 35 months |
| Rover 200 | 39 months |
| Average European manufacturers | 45 months |
| Average United States manufacturers | 50 months |

sign and manufacturing together to hasten introduction and iron out faults before the car reached assembly lines. Jm Towers, Rover's managing director for product supply, nominated a team of ten staff from engineering, design, sales and marketing and outside component makers.

The results started: Rover. Apart from saving a year of lead time, the design and engineering package was completed at 10 per cent below cost. The plethora of engines, specifications and colour derivatives, which could run to a million tiny changes in the lifespan of the model, were also radically cut to just 1,717.

Another big cost-saving, Terry Whitmore, Rover's managing director of large cars who led the Rover 800 project, said: "For the first time, everyone was involved from the start. Every weakness was noted out at the start so there were no surprises for anyone when it was complete. The result is a better product brought more quickly to market."

Customers will see the benefits of the technique immediately. Rover expects to deliver a car from assembly line to showroom within 48 hours of the order being placed, a schedule unheard of at the moment.

Company liquidations reach record 10,800

By WOLFGANG MÜNCHAU

THE Bank of England said that high levels of gearing and the fall in asset prices, and not merely the recession, have contributed significantly to the sharp rise in personal and corporate defaults this year.

In the forthcoming *Quarterly Bulletin*, the Bank said that company liquidations reached a record 10,833 during the first half of this year, equivalent to 4 per cent of the total number of companies registered at Companies House, and representing a level of default about twice as high as in the recession of the early Eighties.

The article, "Patterns of default in the non-financial private sectors", argues that rising gearing levels have been the principle driving forces be-

hind the wave of default, including high capital gearing (debt as a proportion to assets) as well as higher income gearing (interest payment as a proportion to income). Capital and income gearing have risen in the personal as well as the corporate sectors. In the corporate sector, capital gearing shot up from 9 per cent in 1980 to 19 per cent last year, while income gearing rose only moderately, from 26 per cent to 28 per cent.

Additional factors that might have influenced corporate defaults are the fall in share prices and the value of properties, and their knock-on effects on the value of collaterals. "The recent rise in company liquidations may additionally, and to a much greater extent than in 1980, have been induced by the downturn in the housing

market," the article claimed, arguing that while this could not be proved statistically, all the available data pointed to that direction. Construction sector liquidations last year rose by 49.3 per cent, against 20.3 per cent in 1980. The non-food retail sector showed a similar divergence, while manufacturing industry fared much better in the current recession, with liquidations up by 26.1 per cent last year, against 101.6 per cent in 1980.

Default in the personal sector, mostly evidenced by mortgage default, is also a consequence of higher personal gearing. Household income gearing almost trebled between 1980 and 1990, from 5 per cent to 13 per cent, while household capital gearing rose from 15 per cent to 25 per cent. "This rise partly reflects the longer-

term trend towards owner-occupation and the effects of financial liberalisation," according to the Bank. Mortgage advances to first-time buyers rose from 73.8 per cent of the asset value to 82.5 per cent, while the income ratio rose from 1.67 per cent to 2.19 per cent. In the first half of this year, 221,900 mortgages were in arrears for more than six months, equivalent to 2.3 per cent of outstanding stock, which represents a twofold increase from same period in 1990.

The Bank said lower interest rates and the prospect for economic recovery "should lead to a further improvement in borrowers' financial positions. However, these developments are likely to take time to feed through into lower corporate liquidations and personal sector mortgage defaults".

Foster's seeks shake-up vote

FROM BRIAN BUCHANAN
IN SYDNEY

FOSTER'S Brewing of Australia will have its future decided on Wednesday at an annual meeting that will vote on the restructuring plans of International Brewing Holdings (IBH), the main shareholder.

The IBH plan is for Foster's

to split in two with the second company taking the non-brewing assets, the pastoral and finance division. The proposals have been attacked by Fred Hilmer, an independent director. He said the independent directors "won't make decisions under the gun".

IBH still appears confident of victory. As the main shareholder, it has just under 35 per

cent and claims to have the backing of another 5 per cent. The key may be Asahi, the Japanese brewer, which has 20 per cent but is yet to indicate which way it will vote.

The other stumbling block may be IBH's banks. While IBH wants to reinstate the dividend flow from Foster's to service its loans, the banks may not approve a restructure.

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Hopes of new deposits rest on 81 tiny stones from the frozen wilderness

Diamond hunters find a crack in the Canadian ice

CANADA has emerged as a potential "diamond country" after an exploration report from Australia's BHP group in association with Canada's De Beers Diamond Exploration. The report points to the suggestion of a diamond deposit in Canada's vast Northwest Territories.

The joint BHP-De Beers announcement emphasises that evaluation results to date do not demonstrate the presence of an economic deposit, but they are sufficiently encouraging for further work to have been authorised, especially to explore for larger stones.

BHP, from its San Francisco office, has been exploring for diamonds in Canada since September 1989, and has now found 81 small diamonds — all measuring less than 2mm (0.07874in) in diameter. Some are, however, of gem quality.

The potential deposit, near Yellowknife, would be a first for Canada, and the BHP-De Beers announcement must encourage the De Beers diamond group, which itself has been exploring for diamond pipes (the volcanic source of diamonds) in Saskatchewan and Alberta provinces for several years.

An oblique reference in De Beers' 1989 annual report that "Additional kimberlites (type of diamond deposit) have been discovered in Canada. Investigation of one of these

Corporate prospectors like what they are finding in the Northwest Territories. Colin Campbell reports

De Beers continues that it is believed unlikely that any of them will prove to be viable, turned into a more positive statement in its 1990 report.

De Beers then said: "A new discovery of kimberlite-related rock was made in western Canada. Exploration permits have been granted around this occurrence and prospecting is continuing."

Diamonds were historically associated with India before the discovery of massive, and rich, deposits turned the spotlight to Africa in general, and southern Africa in particular.

In terms of value, Russia and Botswana lay claim to producing the world's most valuable gemstones, although several other countries have, in their turn, produced the odd "fabulous" carat. Namibia, where rough gemstones are still washed up by the sea on to the beaches of the Sperrgebiet (forbidden coast) at CDM's property, is also a rich territory.

The west coast of Africa is dotted with deposits. And in east Africa, Mwadui (originally the Williamson pipe), said to have the largest surface area of any kimberlite ever found at 360.5 acres, put

Tanzania on the diamond map when it was discovered in the Forties.

There are even diamond deposits in China, although production statistics are scant. De Beers says that for the past five years it has been in co-operation with the authorities in the Shandong province in exploration work.

In terms of volume of carats produced, Australia leads the world. However, the mix from the Argyle mine in the far north of the state of Western Australia, puts Australia way down any "value list", though the different colours of Argyle stones have started a fashion in their own right.

Russia, in the Yakutia area, is blessed with high value gemstone deposits, and two years ago De Beers signed a co-operation agreement with Soviet officials that involved the advance (against diamonds as collateral) of \$1 billion.

Exploration teams are aware of the climatic difficulties of mining in Canada's Northwest Territories. De Beers recalls that one magnetic reading and satellite map indicated the possible presence of a geological anomaly — and that this proved to be in a lake.

"We had to wait for winter for the lake to freeze before drilling through the ice before we could take samples," De Beers told *The Times*.

The significance for Canada of its first possible deposit is illustrated by a remark from a Canadian High Commission official in Canberra last week. He said there was no listing for diamonds in the country's latest minerals year book.

BHP-De Beers' announcement says an intersection was made at Point Lake, and that a

59 kg (130.03 lb) sample of the kimberlite yielded 81 small diamonds.

"The results, at this stage in the development of the property, are considered significant, although they do not demonstrate an economic deposit," the joint partners said.

However, they plan a more extensive exploration programme this winter and will bulk sample 20 tonnes (20.3 tons) of kimberlite.

"The purpose of the bulk sampling is to test for larger diamonds," they added.

On world stock markets, meanwhile, De Beers shares have again stepped back into fashion.

They traded in London on Friday at £17.50, and over the past 12 months have risen from 88p.

Measured against the Dow Jones, De Beers shares have comfortably outperformed the Dow over the past year.

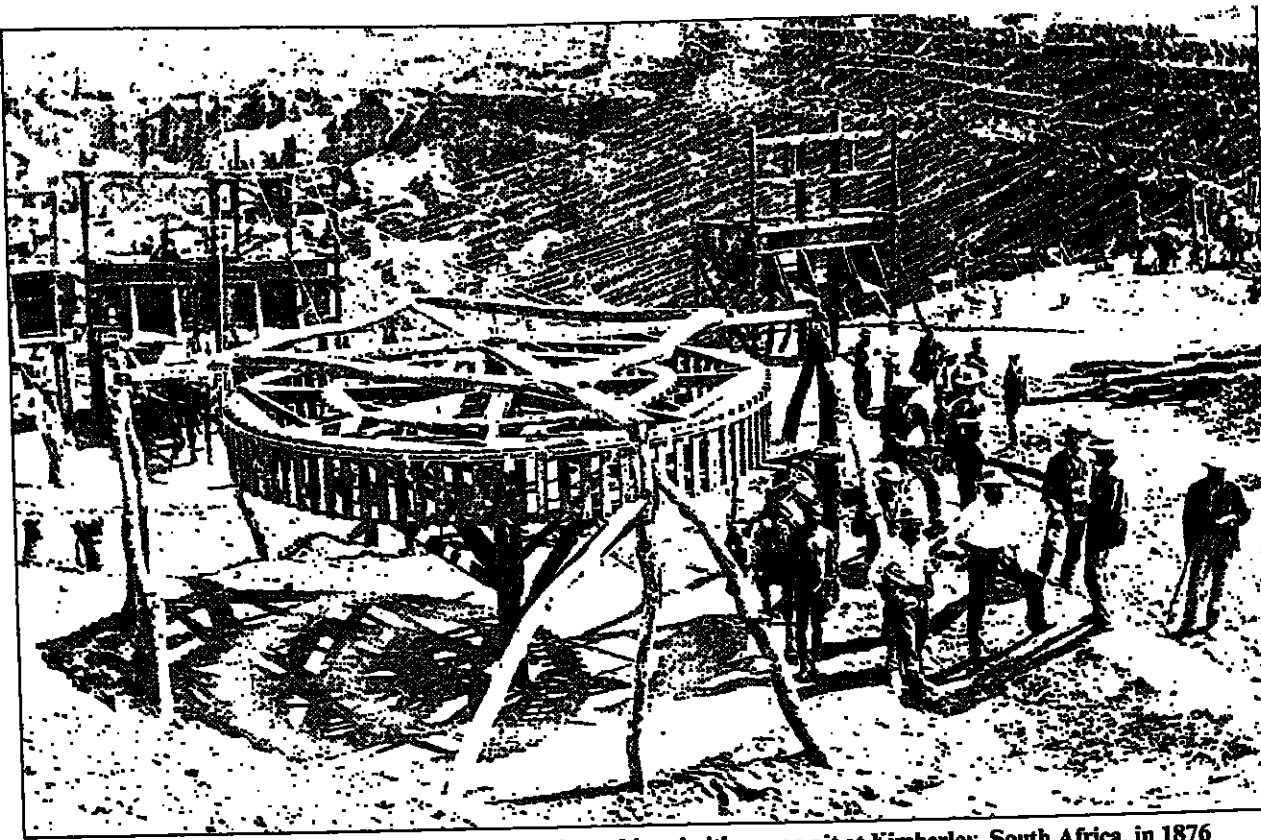
In Johannesburg, analysts continue to wrestle over the complex cross-holding structure of the De Beers and Anglo American groups, and their associated parties.

A certain percentage of the equity of De Beers itself and of companies that make up the Central Selling Organisation, De Beers' worldwide marketing arm that holds ten "sights" in London and at which a selected collection of dealers buy the rough stones, is held by a web of associated interests.

A tidying-up of the complex share structure has long been thought on the cards, although intricate tax complications have so far ruled out a simplified public structure.

In this or the next decade, De Beers is unlikely seriously to be challenged as the world's premier mining group.

But the Canadian hunt for diamonds now being conducted by BHP-De Beers is likely to spur De Beers' own exploration efforts before others step on its stones.



Start of an empire: De Beers' operations grew from this primitive open pit at Kimberley, South Africa, in 1876

GILT-EDGED

When spending deficit is the sting in the ERM tail

The Chancellor's autumn statement relieved market fears about supply. Now it is time for second thoughts. It is difficult to become excited about this year's PSBR figure of £10.5 billion, even if it is helped by privatisation proceeds of £8 billion. The Chancellor had every incentive to let the bad news out at this stage rather than in a pre-election Budget and there is reason to expect this new target to be met.

The rise in public expenditure in 1992-3, from 39% per cent of GDP in last year's plan to 42 per cent this year, is more worrying. Yet comparing the associated macro forecasts and using the public expenditure equation published in the Treasury's summer bulletin suggest half of this increase is due to the 1991

recession. This impression is consistent with the detailed departmental breakdown.

The other half is a discretionary change associated with the election. This will provide a positive boost to output and is a symptom of the pressure for more public spending. The market is rightly concerned about these aspects. But let us stick with the recession and consider the effect this will have upon next year's tax revenue and PSBR.

Again, the Chancellor is determined to let out the bad news now. The small print of the forecast reveals that on a neutral Budget we can expect a PSBR of 3 per cent of GDP, worth £19 billion. This figure is not going to raise many eyebrows, being in line with City estimates (although these assumed lower privatisation proceeds). Moreover, the Treasury's Budget forecast, with a rising PSBR falling to zero in 1994-5, led investors to think in terms of a cyclical increase in the PSBR, followed by an automatic return to a balanced budget. It is consistent with simple intuition that if the recession caused the deficit the recovery must erase it.

Unfortunately, when it comes to government borrowing, intuition can be very misleading. In fact, theory and experience tell us the PSBR will be left high and dry by the recession.

If the initial recovery from the recession is anything like the last one, the best we can now expect is several years when GDP will grow in line with the trend in potential output. That will maintain the margin of unemployment and spare capacity necessary to keep wage and price inflation in line with our ERM partners. But it will keep the government's financial deficit at 3-4 per cent of GDP, just where it was after the last recession and before the Lawson expansion began in 1987-8. All this assumes no discretionary relaxation after the election.

The gap between actual and

potential GDP plays a dominant role in the revenue and expenditure equations found in that Treasury bulletin article, making this effect quite explicit. When this gap opens, the PSBR and unemployment rise and remain high unless output begins to grow faster than trend. This might happen if low inflation becomes ingrained and inflationary expectations and wage claims abate, but that is no more than a glimmer on the theoretical horizon at the moment.

Now, as I have argued here before, extra issuance will have very little impact on gilt yields if progress towards economic convergence and a single European currency continues smoothly. In this situation the overseas investor will step up and absorb new gilt issues as soon as yields move to an excessive premium, as we saw in June.

However, two big problems are apparent in this line of argument. First, there is a real prospect the Maastricht talks will not end in agreement, as the foreign secretary confirmed last week. He felt obliged to say there was "a real chance of success", which implies a real chance of the opposite.

Second, we are not out of the woods even if a compromise can be reached at Maastricht. Research published by some of my colleagues suggests that, rather than falling back as expected, the German public sector deficit will remain at an almost Italian-style 7 per cent of GDP over the next few years. Although a cyclical fall in European yields is possible, the supply background seems particularly bleak.

So the ERM begins to look like a mixed blessing for the gilt investor. It effectively locks in low inflation but also a high government deficit. Bond yields will be supported by supply, irrespective of what happens at Maastricht.

PETER SPENCER
Lehman Brothers
International

Bonn tax to exempt foreign investors

By WOLFGANG MÜNCHAU
EUROPEAN BUSINESS
CORRESPONDENT

THE German government is this week expected to announce the reintroduction of a withholding tax on interest income, likely to be levied only on domestic investors.

The decision to exempt foreign investors ends years of wrangling inside Bonn's ruling coalition and is intended to calm fears of large-scale withdrawal of outside funds from Germany's financial markets.

In 1987 a proposal to introduce a general 10 per cent withholding tax led to several billion marks being withdrawn. The plan, which would have affected domestic and foreign investors in equal measure, had to be abandoned after heavy protests from German banks and the Bundesbank.

The new rules, apart from raising general tax revenues, are aimed primarily at bringing Germany into line with the rest of Europe. Luxembourg is the only other country not to levy withholding tax on interest income.

German media reports say the new rate will be between 20 per cent and 30 per cent, with a higher tax-free allowance than expected.

In a wider reshuffle of taxation, the Bundestag, the lower house of parliament, last week approved a 1 percentage point rise in value-added tax from 1993, again in order to harmonise Germany with the rest of Europe. The Bundestag also passed a reduction and simplification in corporate taxation.

However, the tax bills will need approval by the Bundesrat, the upper house of parliament, where the social democratic majority has indicated its opposition to them.

None of the proposals, whether approved by the government or not, is likely to survive the complicated legislative process in current form.



Pace quickens in share performance test

CONTENDERS for the title of best-performing share in the forthcoming Coopers & Lytle awards for 1991 include the shares of the telecommunications giant, BT, which has set a furious pace.

Although smaller companies generally raised out of the war, there were some notable exceptions that notched up increases reminiscent of the bull market of the late Eighties. Investment in smaller companies can be speculative but can also be hugely rewarding, even in difficult times.

Take Airtrons, the package tour operator. At the turn of the year, with war in the Gulf imminent, Airtrons was only for the brave, a company that looked certain to lose a large slice of its business as cautious holidaymakers prepared to stay at home. Higher oil prices would squeeze margins, putting additional pressure on profitability.

Fearless investors who did back Airtrons are now laugh-

ing all the way to the bank. In the first week of January it was possible to buy Airtrons shares at 170p. Now they change hands for 814p, an increase of 378 per cent, and there is still no shortage of buyers before the company's next financial results are expected in December.

The collapse of the rival International Leisure Group removed substantial surplus capacity in the holiday industry, allowing survivors like Airtrons to increase prices. More recently, David Crossland, chairman, and Harry Coe, finance director, announced the appointment of Airtrons as a tour operator for the Euro Disney theme park near Paris, giving the shares another boost.

Another out-of-favour sector early this year was engineering, yet Prospect Industries has seen its shares rise by 337 per cent to 174p. This engineering holding company has prospered in the recession by serving the buoyant power

SMALLER COMPANIES

generation sector in the repair and maintenance of boilers. Analysts expect profits to rise from £500,000 to at least £3 million in the year just ended. Baby products, fabric dyes and florists' sundries make an unusual combination but seem to work well for May-



Crossland: Disney boost

born Group, whose shares have jumped 269 per cent from 23p to 85p this year. Pre-tax profits trebled in the first half and the group is on course to restore full-year profits — and its share price — to levels last seen in 1988.

An increase of 250 per cent has been achieved by Hi-Tec Sports, up from 56p to 196p. Britain's leading sports shoe supplier has progressed despite depressed consumer spending and is challenging for a greater share of the lucrative American market.

Another company to buck the trend in a depressed sector is Gold Greenlees Trott, the advertising agency, whose shares have bounced from 63p to 217p, a 244 per cent rise, helped by an element of takeover talk. Similarly Adscene, the local newspaper publisher, has defied difficult trading conditions to record a rise of 138 per cent, from 31p to 74p. This jump is remarkable, given that Adscene halved its total dividend to 2p for the

year to end-September after taxable profits slumped from £1.12 million to £705,000.

Caldwell Investments is an importer of underwear from Germany. Since closing down its loss-making manufacturing activities in Britain, the company has returned to growth, turning round from a loss of £63,000 to a profit of £153,000 at the interim stage.

With another six weeks of 1991 remaining, it is still possible for an outsider to outflank these companies and seize the top prize for the best performing share. Prizes will be awarded in six other categories, including USM company of the year, best annual report and entrepreneur of the year.

A panel of judges will be nominated in February and a shortlist of companies will be published in *The Times* on March 18. The award ceremony takes place at the Grosvenor House Hotel on March 19.

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COMMENT

BT is the victim in a ritual game

A ritual privatisation game is being played around BT. The City tries to talk the price down and the government's advisers try to talk it up before the sale terms are fixed. This game becomes more complex in a secondary issue where there is a real share price to argue about. In the sale of BP shares in 1987, a judicious last-minute selling manoeuvre in the options market upset the government's calculations, before the stock market crash made such niceties irrelevant. To stop this happening again, the sale price of partly paid BT stock is to be driven by big investors' bids. The advisers are still watching for dirty play, under the threat that disloyal miscreants will be shut out of the sale.

The BT share price debate centres, however, on regulation by OfTel. This year it has seemed BT cannot win. The duopoly review generated enough fear to push BT shares down to 346p at the end of June. BT's profitable world day survived the review and its shares surged back up to about 390p. But buoyant profits and pay rises excited clamour for further action by the regulator to reduce BT profits to an acceptable number of pounds per second, though nobody has yet suggested what that might be. In September, BT was hit by a new interim regime that made prices move 6.25 per cent below an inflation rate falling fast to a lower ERM-determined plane.

Public baiting of BT — whose pathfinder prospectus will be issued this week — was to be only one element in a nightmare autumn for utilities. Regulators for gas, water and electricity, as well as OfTel, vied with each other in changing the rules under which their industries operate and issuing dire threats. The clamour made privatised utilities friendless, political Aunt Sallies. Labour attacked the government over their rapaciousness; the government neatly joined the attack on the companies, cynically jettisoning its share-owning democracy. Investors cannot know if this political hysteria and regulatory mayhem is just part of the electoral cycle or a permanent new feature of the utility business. Only one thing is clear: regulatory regimes can no longer be regarded as stable.

The government marketing machine argued strongly that the duopoly review removed most uncertainties and BT could cope with the tougher price cap by eliminating £1 billion a year of surplus costs. Institutions, worried that the public and foreigners might squeeze them out of the issue, bought existing BT shares, pushing the price to 423p at end-September. Since then it has fallen 15 per cent to 360p.

The shares have been hit by a bizarre combination of contrary arguments. On the one hand, BT's profits will suffer from the recession, from the new price cap and from its own inefficiency. This seemed to be confirmed by a fall in quarterly profits even before the tougher price limit. Iain Vallance, BT's chairman, found himself arguing that the profit fall was an effective answer to his critics. Profit forecasts have come down by about 5 per cent and it now looks likely that recovery at BT may lag the economy because of its dependence on service sectors.

On the other hand, critics argue that BT's rate of return on capital is excessive by comparison with foreign telephone utilities. This may seem irrelevant. Britain has rejected rate of return controls, which breed inefficiency and excessive capital spending. OfTel sees BT's overall return as acceptable. BT has, in any case, complained for years that its local network, the one that affects voters, makes a loss and has to be cross-subsidised because of price limits.

Such logic does little to calm City nerves. OfTel will submit a discussion paper in the new year on a new price control regime for BT from 1993. Will BT's rate of return be squeezed? Will OfTel force a big one-off cut in prices? All the options are open. Any such move would ensure failure for the government's main aim: encouraging competitors to challenge BT's monopoly power. But that is another game.

Anatole Kaletsky interprets Helmut Schlesinger's remarks on German rates

To judge by the behaviour of the financial markets, the main economic event of last week was not Wednesday's autumn statement, which greatly increased government spending and borrowing for up to four years, but Thursday's Bundesbank council meeting, which left German interest rates unchanged for two weeks. Since the market impact of Germany's non-decision on rates was amplified by some widely discussed statements by Helmut Schlesinger, the Bundesbank president, in Friday's *Times*, this economic view comes in two parts: first some brief comments on the autumn statement; then some more comments on German interest rates and what they may mean for British monetary policy and for the foreign exchanges.

Norman Lamont's autumn statement has been attacked for its alleged profligacy by neo-Thatcherite hardliners — a coalition of fiscal backwoodsmen, which now seems to include much of the Labour party front bench, as well as such traditional mavericks such as Nicholas Ridley. The Chancellor is accused of abandoning the principle of balanced budgets by planning to borrow about 3 per cent of gross domestic product next year. He is even more fiercely castigated for betraying the Thatcher legacy by tolerating an increase in public spending from 40 per cent of GDP in 1990-1 to 41.5 per cent in the current financial year, to 42 per cent in 1992-3.

In answering these charges, a few pictures are worth a thousand words. As the first chart shows, Britain's ratio of public debt to GDP has fallen precipitously in the past two decades. Public expenditure as a percentage of GDP has also fallen sharply, to a level that is not only the lowest in Europe but, judging by the opinion polls, is also lower than most of the electorate would wish. Given the strength of the government's balance sheet, there will be no problem at all in borrowing 3 per cent of GDP for a few years to help the economy claw its way out of recession. Beyond the recession, there would be no need to raise revenues to pay for somewhat higher public spending if the ratio of public debt to GDP were allowed to rise by even a few percentage points.

As for the claim that slightly higher government borrowing will raise British interest rates to the detriment of the private sector, this totally ignores the new realities of ERM membership. Britain is now borrowing from a financial pool that extends to the whole of Europe. If Britain curbs its PSBR, but Germany or Italy expand theirs, British private borrowers will still have to pay higher interest rates.

This brings us to German interest rates. As the person who actually talked to Professor Schlesinger last Tuesday, I must add a word of interpretation to last week's straight report on his comments, if only to offer general readers the same insights (or misconceptions) that I gave my friends in the City who rang in a high excitement to ask for further details of the interview on Friday. First, Professor Schlesinger said neither more nor less about the future course of German interest rates than was reported in Friday's *Times*. He did not rule out a rise in money market interest rates in the weeks or months ahead. As an experienced central banker, he would never have done this. But what Professor Schlesinger did say was that small

changes in market rates, of the order of 0.2 of a percentage point, were not intended to send policy signals to politicians, wage bargainers and the German public. In this sense, the Bundesbank's "only important signal this year" came in August, when the discount rate was raised by a full percentage point to 7½ per cent (the highest level in 30 years). When asked whether the apparent lack of response among wage bargainers to last August's signal meant that another signal would have to be sent, Professor Schlesinger said: "I am not so sure", and shifted the conversation from interest rates to monetary targets. Perhaps the talk of interest rate signals was "misleading", he said. Monetary targets

were the instrument for conveying a "more continuous explanation" of anti-inflation policy.

Those, then, were the facts. Now for the personal interpretation, which is not, of course, endorsed in any way by Professor Schlesinger or the Bundesbank. Professor Schlesinger's remarks did not necessarily contradict the widespread view among investors that interest rates in Germany could rise by a few tenths of a percentage point, possibly taking the emergency lombard rate up from the present 9½ per cent to 10 per cent. But such a small move, if it happened, would have no policy significance. It would not be

regarded by the Bundesbank as the first step in a new round of monetary tightening, leading to a quantum jump in German rates. Furthermore, the growth of Germany's money supply, rather than the behaviour of wage bargainers or the performance of the mark and the dollar, would be the key. Therefore, the question that ought to be asked by anyone but the shortest-term traders in the German money markets is not whether rates will rise by another quarter point. In itself such a small move would make no difference to the German economy, the currency markets, or the monetary conditions in Britain and other European countries. The question that matters is whether a further substantial

rise in German rates is on the horizon, or whether the peak in the interest rate cycle is finally in sight. It was on this score that Professor Schlesinger's comments seemed reassuring — and the reason why they caused a stir among investors was that the markets, in their subliminal way, were beginning to reach the same reassuring conclusion.

This does not mean that the German constraint on British monetary policy is about to disappear, any more than it implies a fall in the mark against the dollar, since real interest rates in America will remain far below German ones for the foreseeable future.

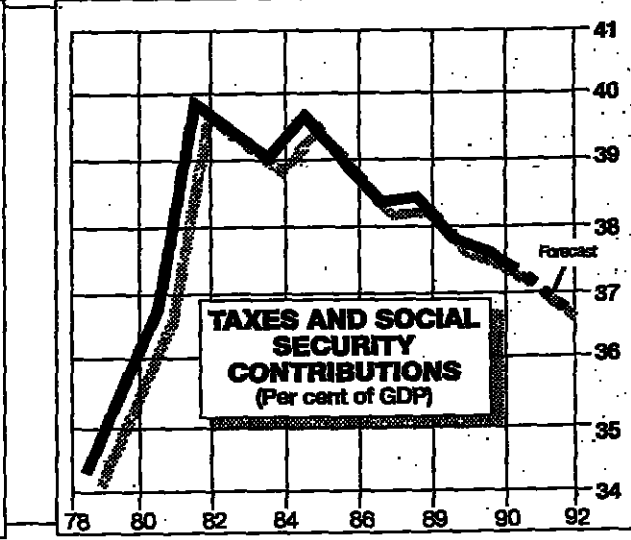
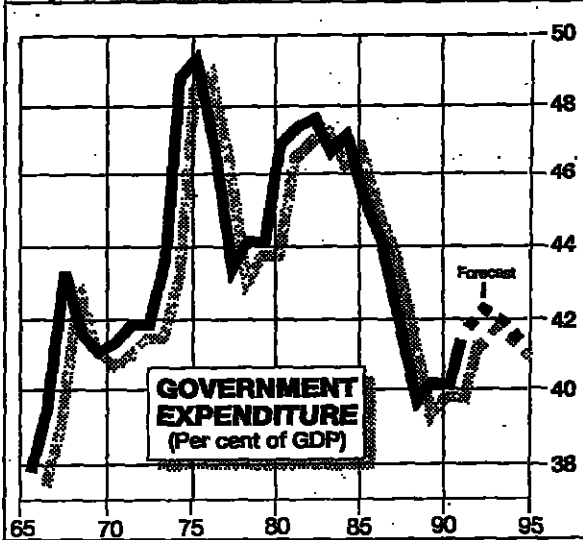
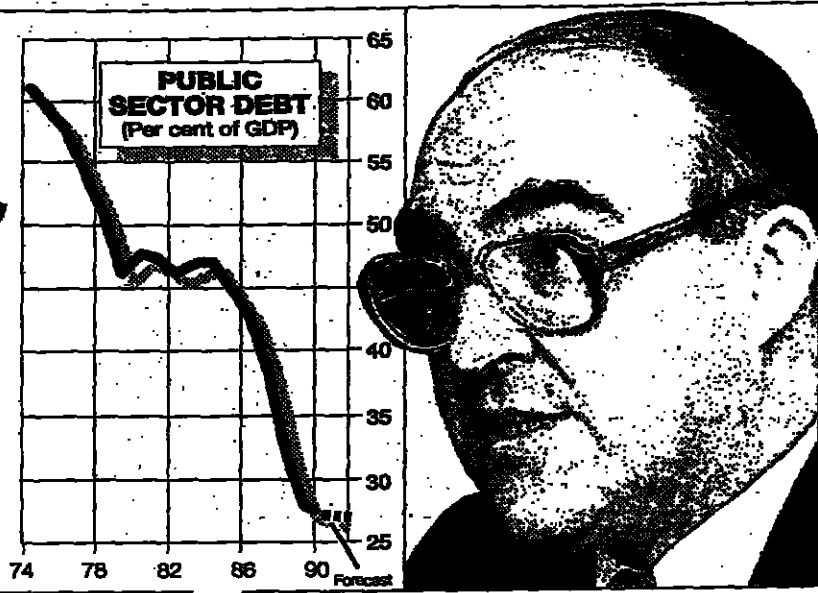
The painfully earned credibility of the present ERM band may still condemn many parts of Britain's manufacturing industry to extinction. But the time is approaching when the interest rate rewards of ERM membership can finally be reaped.

Three-month and six-month rates in Britain are now just ¼ of a percentage point above those in Germany, although one-week rates are still 1½ points higher. Norman Lamont thus seems to have little room left to cut base rates, because of investors' fears that the pound will sink to the bottom of its ERM band at DM2.78. If, however, the Chancellor were prepared to let the pound slide towards its floor, the risks of holding sterling would be significantly diminished and Britain might be able to get away with short rates no higher than the German level, just as in France.

Even such a manoeuvre would probably allow only a point off base rates, but given the present state of the economy and of public opinion, that might be just enough to secure a decent recovery and even perhaps an election victory for the Tories.

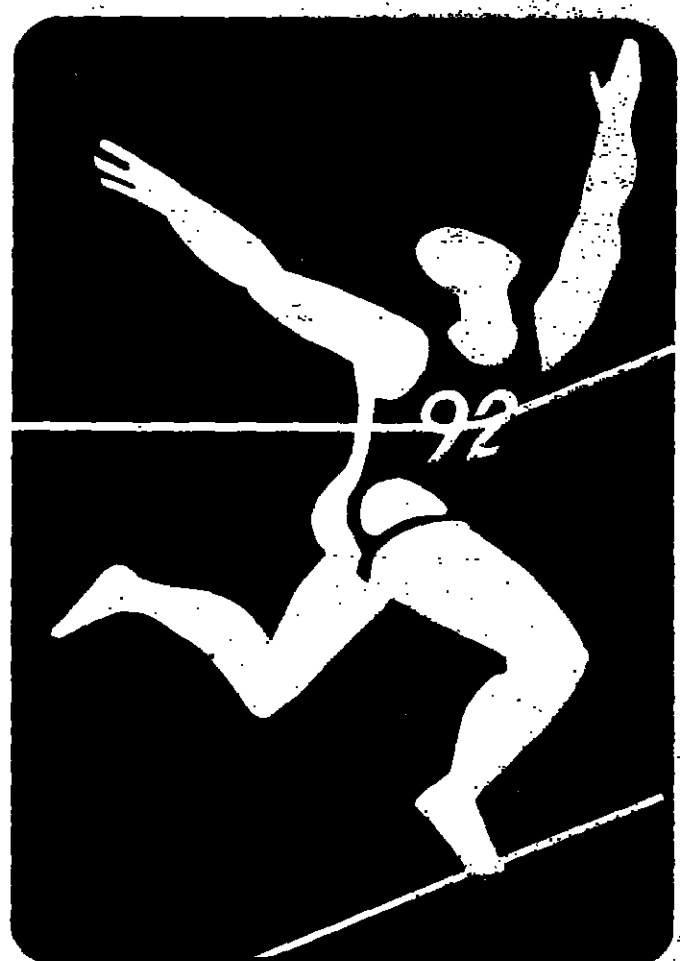
If the Chancellor took the logic of ERM membership to heart, he would start to adjust market interest rates in quarter point steps, like the Germans and French, and avoid the political fanfare. He could then take some of the political pressure off his pre-election monetary policy. He could even prepare the public not to panic at an occasional upward blip, provided the long-term trend in rates continued to point down.

Time is approaching to reap interest rate rewards of ERM membership



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THE TIMES CITY DIARY

Dusty dreams of Xanadu

TWO of the most successful businessmen of the Eighties saw their dreams of living in palatial style turn to rubble over the weekend. Paul Green and Martin Harrison, Manchester financiers who in June quit Sovereign Leasing, one of Europe's biggest privately owned leasing companies, have said farewell to two £5 million mansions they were building side by side in Bramhall, Cheshire. No one was willing to complete the Citizen Kane-style palaces, jointly set in seven acres, and boasting eight ensuite bedrooms apiece as well as swimming pools and luxury cinemas. Now the demolition men have moved in, and 18 somewhat smaller homes are to be built in their place. The two men, who founded Sovereign with just £50 in 1982, left the company after a disagreement with Österreichische Länderbank, the Austrian bank that paid £50 million for a 51 per cent stake in Sovereign last year.

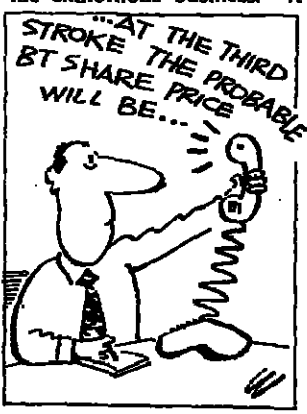
Office-go-round

THE Square Mile can be brutal at times, but it seems tame next to the antics of some of Britain's regional financial districts. Take Leeds, for example, where the entire staff of Capel-Cure Myers has defected to their old rival, Wise Speke. The team was led by Jeff Plowman who is, it seems, quite adept at such moves. He once led a similar defection from Allied Provincial Securities to set up the Leeds office of National Investment Group under the guidance of Robin Woodhead.

the former NIG chief executive. Capel-Cure took over NIG a year ago, and decided to close the Leeds office, prompting the walkout. Plowman says he is happy to stay put... at least for now.

Sofa so pink

BATTLING against the winds during the Lords Mayor's Parade on Saturday were ten burly furniture makers from the High Wycombe factory of Parker Knoll, doing their best to hold down pink, inflatable sofa, measuring 20ft by 10ft by 10ft and filled with helium. The sofa was the centrepiece of the float entered by the Worshipful Company of Furniture Makers, founded in 1663 and therefore one of the youngest livery companies in the Square Mile. The men were there to assist their boss, Martin Jourdan, chairman of Cornwell Parker and a great grandson of Frederick Parker, who started the business. Jourdan, master of the livery company this year, paid £3,500 for the sofa and now hopes to recoup some of that cost by selling it to someone in either the furniture industry or the exhibitions business. "It



was paid for by subscriptions from our members and if we could get £1,000 for it we would be delighted," says Jourdan.

A STOCKBROKER travelling in California spotted red warning labels attached to the hot-air hand dryers in an airport washroom. They read: "Warning. Electric Shock. Do not operate with wet hands."

Star-crossed

THE revelation in this column last week that Euro-tunnel's chief executive, Sir Alastair Morton, is a Capricorn and, as such, is shy but tough and strong, pleasant but fiercely ambitious, and prone to cover frustration with a brusque manner, has provoked an unexpected reaction from TML, the consortium of contractors building the tunnel. It seems that several of TML's top executives, including Jack Lemley, its chief executive, are also Capricorns. Those who know Lemley, an American, describe him as "softly spoken, very quiet but very committed", a description which could also, at times, fit Morton. Lemley's colleagues then admit that Morton and Lemley are known to dislike each other.

Mixing with oil

NOMURA, the world's biggest securities house, recently took on Shell, the world's biggest oil company, and won — at soccer, that is. Max Bascombe's team beat adversaries from the Shell Pension Fund by two goals to nil, helped along by Alan Higgins, who managed to write off one of Shell's best players in the first 20 minutes of the game.

Less enthusiastic was Andy Chambers who, at 16 stone and 6ft 2ins, was not going to push himself. "He kept leaving the field for a cigarette and a pint of beer," says Bascombe, who adds that Nomura — clearly a more colourful firm than many had realised — is heavily over-subscribed for its Christmas wine-tasting at Sotheby's. A booby prize is on hand for the contestant who does the worst... a Raters glass decanter and a prawn sandwich.

Smoke out

THE fitness level at W I Carr (Investments), the investment management division of W I Carr Group, has improved dramatically in the past three weeks. An experimental ban on smoking in its open-plan office has proved so popular that it has been made permanent. Of the 30 or so people in the office, 13 smoked and, according to inside sources, the smoke, coupled with the heat generated by dealing screens and computers, made the atmosphere unbearable. "The pleasure smokers got from smoking was as nothing to the displeasure it caused non-smokers," says Fred "no relation" Carr, chief executive. Carr, a smoker, said the experiment has cut his daily cigarette consumption from 30 to 15 but he admits that when he is desperate for nicotine he hides behind some computers in a spot that nobody else appears to have discovered. "We haven't had any complaints, but I think it would be unpopular if the entire building was made non-smoking — and I can see that happening in a few years," Carr laments.

CAROL LEONARD

Handwritten signature or note at the bottom of the page.

CAPITAL MARKETS

Japan sets out on rocky road to securitisation

PHILIP PANGALOS

commercial activity suggests that once a home-grown version of the product is developed it will quickly become a formidable competitor in the international marketplace.

JONATHAN PRYNN

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Great powers face war of independents

Independent power stations are taking on the generating giants, but can they win the financial battle? David Young reports

Britain's first independent power station at Roosecote, Cheshire, has been formally opened. However, it remains to be seen if it will be the first of many or the first to expose the difficulties of operating in an industry shaped by government financial policy rather than energy policy.

When the industry was being prepared for privatisation in the late 1980s, ministers were clear that greater competition was at the heart of the programme. The government still enthusiastically backs that policy, and the number of private power generation schemes being planned seems to increase weekly. However, there are many in the industry who say the reality is that some of these projects will never get beyond the initial stage.

Oxford Economic Research Associates (Oxera), the power industry analyst, forecasts huge excess of power generation capacity in the first half of the decade. Oxera attacks the government for encouraging a rush of new projects while at the same time erecting barriers to entry in a bid to protect the interests of the newly privatised firms.

Oxera believes only five independent power stations will reach operational stage by the mid-1990s. The new entrants will be financially strapped because of a surplus of generating capacity, the heavy cost of capital investment, and the ability of existing suppliers to manipulate prices on the electricity spot market.

There are, however, five projects which Oxera thinks will be successful. Among them is Lakeland Power,

which runs Roosecote. The others are Yorkshire Electricity's Brigg station on Humberside and the large Teesside power station, Peterborough Power, being built by Eastern Electricity and Hawker Siddeley, and East Midlands Electricity's station at Corby, Northamptonshire.

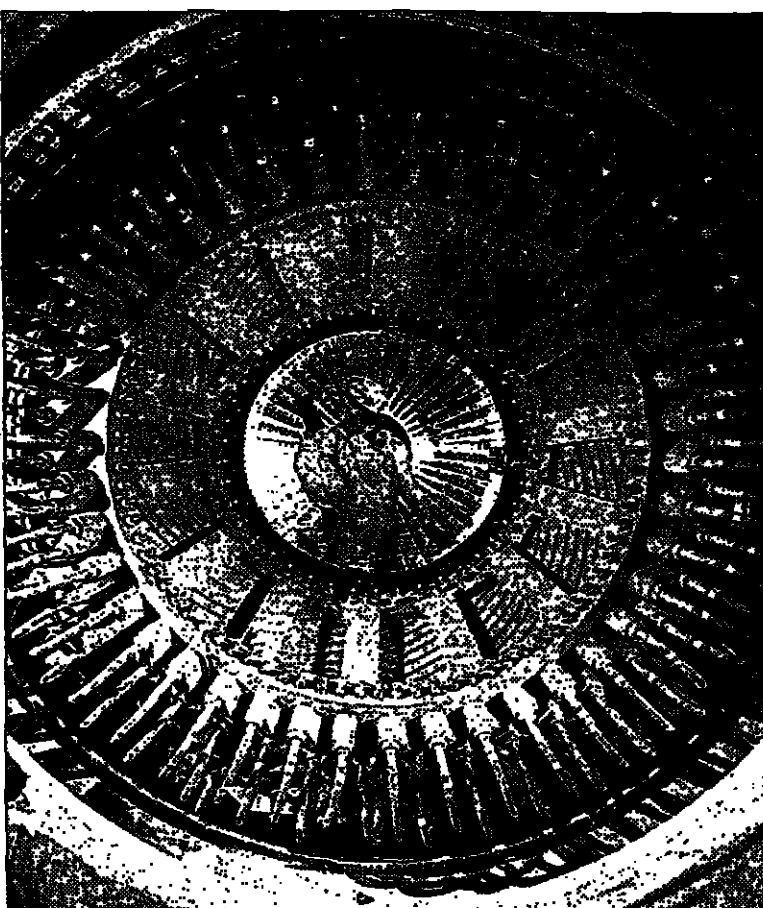
Lakeland Power owes much of its success to the fleet-footedness of its management team. In 1987, the then Central Electricity Generating Board put up for sale a 30-year old defunct power station at Roosecote. Richard Stubbs, now Lakeland Power's managing director, Ron Stone, its finance director, Neil Bryson and Eric Ratcliffe, saw it as an opportunity to build Britain's first privately owned power station.

Their initial plan was to repower Roosecote using its existing steam turbines, plus a gas turbine, to provide combined cycle technology, which has the advantages of higher thermal efficiency and reduced levels of carbon dioxide. They soon found that they could not rely on 30-year-old steam turbines to generate power continuously to a market in which non-delivery means severe financial penalties. The 1989 Electricity Act contained the solution, allowing stations to burn natural gas for the first time in the United Kingdom.

Asea Brown Boveri (ABB), the Swedish/Swiss power plant contractor, put up 80 per cent of the capital for the £130 million Roosecote project and the initial plans were quickly changed. The old steam turbines were scrapped and a single gas turbine, a steam turbine, and a heat recovery boiler were installed in



Richard Stubbs: Lakeland leader



Magnetic force: the stator of National Power's Drax generator

the turbine hall of the original station. At 220 megawatts (MW), the new station's capacity is 80 per cent greater than the original Roosecote 120 MW plant, and its thermal efficiency more than double that of the old plant.

The final ingredient arrived when Norweb, the northwest's regional electricity company, signed a contract to buy the station's entire output for 15 years, starting from November 1. Manweb, the Manchester-based company, has taken a 20 per cent equity stake in the new station.

The other independent power projects proposed to date are for combined cycle gas turbine (CCGT) power stations, which are cheaper and quicker to build and more efficient than the coal-fired power stations currently operated by National Power and PowerGen. A problem is that their builders are at present tied to British Gas and its price structure.

To finance new projects, independent generators must secure long-term contracts for their output at prices guaranteeing sufficient cash-flow to meet repayment commitments and other costs with a reasonable margin of comfort. The only such contracts so far have been placed by the regional electricity companies, the former area boards but they have to

be careful that they satisfy their licence obligation to purchase power economically.

The other main potential sources of competition to the existing generators are the renewable sector, combined heat and power (CHP), and companies generating their own power. There were 75 projects with a combined capacity of 102.25MW approved for inclusion in the renewable quota last year. The energy department envisages that figure being increased this year by between 150MW and 200MW.

The most potent threat to the large generators is presented by CHP schemes, which are energy efficient since both electricity and steam are generated in a process that recaptures waste heat. A number of projects are under consideration, most of them gas-fired. One scheme which should be operational by the end of 1991 is that proposed by Citigen, a company owned by British Gas and Utilicom, a French energy management group, to supply heat and power to the City of London Corporation.

The view within the industry is that it is unlikely that the new generators will be serious competition for National Power and PowerGen.

Success 'that proves the sceptics wrong'

Underlying the government's privatisation policy is a belief that enterprise flourishes best in a commercial environment, in which management is free to manage within the disciplines of the market and of an independent regulator.

The starting point of the government's biggest privatisation — that of electricity supply — was that decisions about the supply of electricity should be driven by the needs of customers rather than the views of monopoly producers, and that competition is the best guarantee of consumers' interests. At the same time, we set out to establish an effective regulatory system; to ensure safety and security of supply; to give customers new rights; and to offer those who worked in the industry an opportunity to have a direct stake.

Today, only one year after floating the 12 distribution companies and eight months after the flotation of the two generation companies in England and Wales, those aims are increasingly being translated into reality.

A month ago, I officially opened Lakeland Power's Roosecote power station — the first major privately-owned power station to generate power from combined cycle gas technology, and to sell it into the grid for public consumption. There are now around two dozen independent generating projects planned for England and Wales, which are public knowledge and which represent the essence of what we believe in and have been trying to implement. Nine other projects have received planning consent, three already under construction.

If they all went ahead, their combined capacity alone would total almost 6 gigawatts (GW) — or some 10 per cent of the total generating capacity of England and Wales at the end of 1990. Competition in electricity supply is, therefore, clearly starting to work. Government investment in renewable energy programmes is now running at record

Privatisation has sparked benefits for customers, says energy secretary

John Wakeham

levels, with a budget of £24 million for 1991/92. The introduction of the non-fossil fuel obligation (NFFO) last year gave renewable energy the greatest boost it has ever received in this country. And only last week we announced that 122 further renewable projects with a capacity of more than 470MW will qualify for the NFFO.

We have also set out to create a system of regulation designed to promote competition, oversee prices and protect customers' interests in areas where there remains monopoly. In setting up the Office of Electricity Regulation, under Professor Stephen Littlechild as director general of electricity supply, we have established a model for future regulatory systems — and one well in keeping with the Citizen's Charter.

Already the director general has made a number of decisions of importance to electricity users, large and small. He has put in motion the guidelines for ensuring that new standards are set to ensure better service for the electricity consumer. Customers now have new rights — not just safeguards.

There is clear control of prices for retail consumers, protecting them from unreasonable increases while ensuring the public electricity suppliers remain able to finance growing requirements for investment in the system.

There are guaranteed standards of performance set by the director general for such areas as the need to keep appointments on the date specified, to restore a supply promptly and to give adequate advance warning of a planned interruption in supply.

There is now fixed compensation for customers if guaranteed standards are not met, and new codes of practice for areas such as customer complaints, efficient use of electricity, services for elderly and disabled people, arrangements for paying bills and for disconnections.

The director general is the watchdog for the electricity consumer, and improvements in the electricity supply industry for the benefit of the customer will continue.

Two years ago the critics said either privatisation of electricity was not possible, or that if it happened it would never work. A year into that privatised industry those sceptics have been proved wrong. In the place of a monolithic monopoly we have an increasingly competitive industry, effective regulation, and service to the customer. We have set the standards for others to follow.



Powerful feeling: John Wakeham opens Roosecote

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The money generators

The electricity sell-offs have seen good returns for most investors.

Rodney Hobson analyses the figures

The electricity industry has been an important part of the government's privatisation policies. So keen was the government to extend share ownership that the pricing of shares in the three electricity privatisations was on the low side, leaving fortunate investors able to make a quick profit. Yet those who have hung on have generally seen their shares further increase in value.

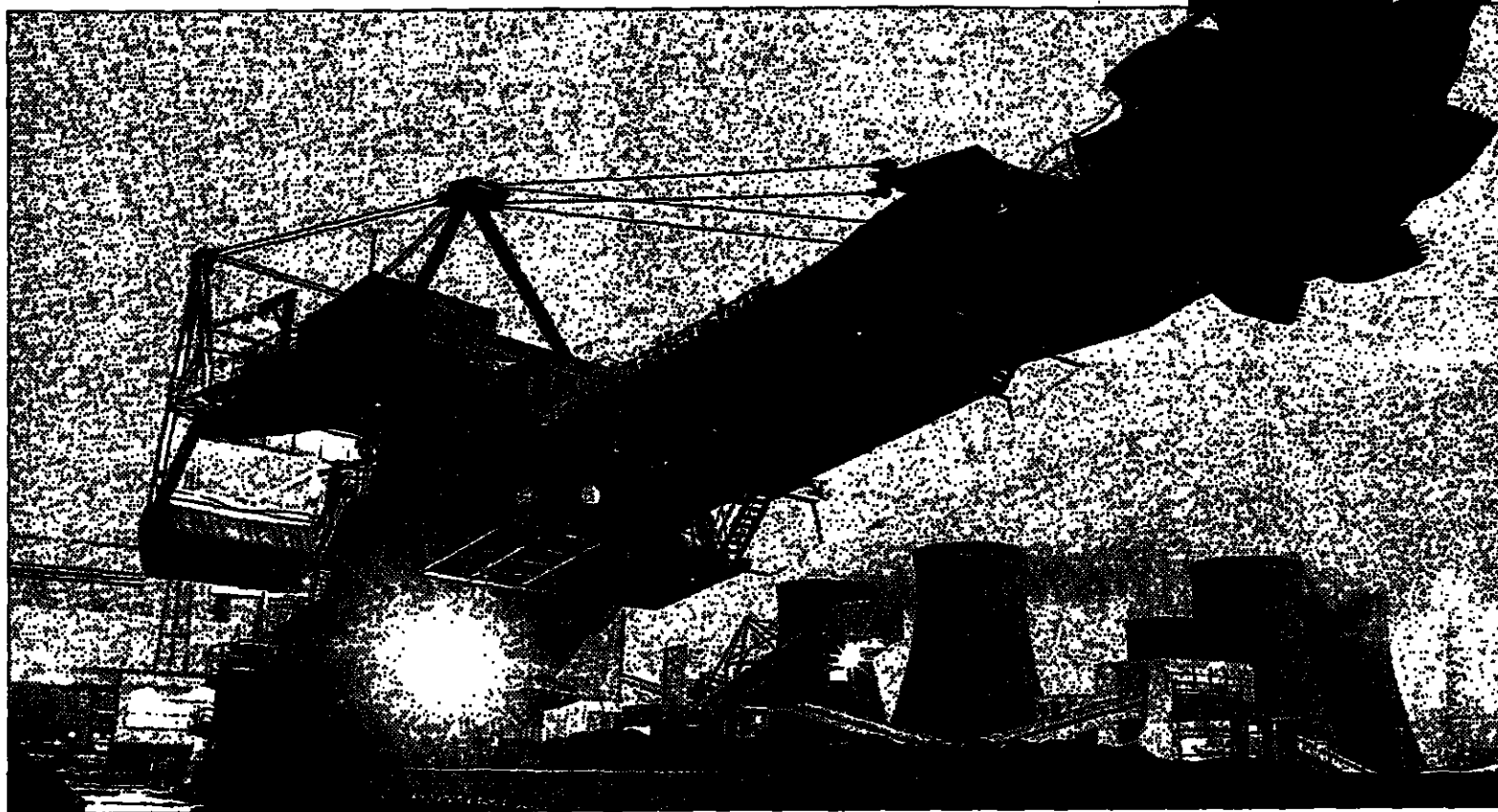
The first sale was the 12 regional distribution companies of England and Wales in 1990. All were listed at 240p fully paid, and they jumped more than 40p on the first day. Since then, the best performing share has been South Wales Electricity, the smallest. It was the only one to pay a final dividend significantly higher than forecast in the prospectus. Its shares stand at about 380p.

The least profitable investment has been Eastern Electricity. Analysts have been unhappy over whether the Eastern management has a clearly focused strategy. However, even Eastern shares are above 300p.

The sale of the two main power generators, National Power and PowerGen, came later. They were sold at 175p a share in February this year and the first day of trading again produced a 40p premium. The shares have moved up to around 230p in the case of PowerGen and 225p at National Power.

The flotation in June of two Scottish generators, Scottish Hydro-Electric and Scottish Power, proved more of a mixed blessing. From an issue price of 240p, they both immediately topped 260p but have since slipped back below 250p, with Hydro as the better performer all the way.

Despite efforts to encourage independent power generation



Dropoly power: the Drax station symbolises the domination of National Power and PowerGen, who account for 74 per cent of sales in England and Wales

projects, analysts predict that the contribution from the independents will be modest for at least the next five years, leaving investments in the privatised companies looking good for some time yet.

Hoare Govett, the stockbroker, estimates that only about 7 per cent of generation capacity in England and Wales will be available from independent generators, even

though there are 24 projects with a planned capacity of more than 100 megawatts each under consideration.

Apart from a plant at Teesside, no other independent generating plant is above 360 megawatts, equivalent to less than 10 per cent of the capacity of the Drax power station. Most larger projects have run into some kind of problem — planning, fuel sup-

ply or financial — and fewer than half have actually secured planning permission. "For the foreseeable future, the duopoly of National Power and PowerGen will continue to dominate the market," the Hoare Govett reports says. "In 1990-91 they accounted for 46 per cent and 28 per cent of total sales in England and Wales. Only Nuclear Electric is currently

an effective competitor. Of the two, National Power has found most favour among analysts. Its 1991-92 pre-tax profit is likely to be close to £500 million, compared with the £434 million pre-tax profit achieved in the 12 months to March 1991. The 1992-93 financial year is likely to bring in £530 million. With its high market share, and its *de facto* setting of the 'pool' price, National Power's position is enviable."

PowerGen achieved pre-tax profits of £272 million in 1990-91 but should reach £335 million this year and £360 million in 1992-93. PowerGen and National Power may find they can consolidate their positions because of their strength as large buyers of gas and coal. Gas accounts for about 60 per cent of generating costs for the independents and British Gas decided last summer to raise its prices to them by 35 per cent.

Few new schemes are coal-fired, leaving British Coal heavily dependent on the two big generators, who will be renegotiating new contracts to apply from April 1993 from a position of strength. If the Conservative government is re-elected, it will be keen to negotiate a deal, probably for at least four years, that would be acceptable to all, so British Coal can be privatised.

The regional distribution companies have also generally found favour with City analysts. On average, they exceeded the earnings forecast in the privatisation prospectuses for the year to March by

nearly a third. Seaboard beat its forecast by 65 per cent.

In the year to March 1992, the distribution companies are likely to see profits from continuing operations rise by a quarter. Goldman Sachs, the analyst, says: "We believe the performance by the regional electricity companies underscores their long-term earning power."

The Scots are not seen as having quite such a good time of it. Growth prospects are limited and expansion will depend largely on the ability to sell electricity to the English.

All privatised utilities are vulnerable to political considerations and the generators and distribution companies have seen share prices ease during the uncertainty over the next general election.

However, there is a reasonable chance that the electricity companies would survive a Labour government in good shape. Labour has said that it would insist on energy saving as a matter of policy and it might also hold down the distribution companies are all owed to increase prices by more than the level of inflation. The generators may also be persuaded to use British Coal, possibly through the restriction of imports.

However, analysts believe that earnings will continue to grow strongly up to 1993 and still rise after that, if not so impressively.

Combined power of new generation

Companies are forming partnerships to produce clean and green energy

Power stations usually provoke an attack of nimbly — not in my backyard. We all want the electricity they produce but they are large, dirty, and put out transmission lines like an octopus spreading its tentacles (Rodney Hobson writes).

However, one of the most exciting independent projects in Britain is the 1,725 megawatt (MW) plant at Wilton, Teesside, due to start up early in 1993. Exciting because it involves four regional electricity generating companies banding together to challenge the might of the generating giants because it brings ICI, new to the field, into a big generating scheme; and because it involves a foreign investor, Enron, the American power company.

The £700 million project is to construct one of the world's largest gas-fired power stations. The gas, supplied by Amoco and British Gas, will come from the Everest and

underground can be up to ten times more expensive.

It is one of the British projects bothering Carlo Ripa de Meana, the EC environment commissioner. If the European Commission upholds the complaint, it can refer the case to the European Court of Justice in Luxembourg, which has power to issue an injunction to stop the project.

ICI, which has an adjoining 2,000-acre site, will take about 15 per cent of the power generated. Power not used locally will go into the national grid. The significance of the Teesside project is that the emergence of independent power generators is a central plank of the government's policy for a competitive market in electricity.

The National Grid Company says it will have to reinforce the grid system to take the sizeable output from Teesside. Power, owned jointly by Enron, ICI, Central Power, Northern Electric

(Generating), South Western

Power and South Wales Generating.

The route for new power lines has been picked to run through predominantly industrial, rather than residential, areas. However, Teesside Development Corporation has objected to the route, saying that it would cross a proposed nature reserve and a

commercial and leisure development.

A rival to the Enron team is Independent Power Generators, formed in July. East Midlands Electricity holds 27 per cent and Compagnie Générale des Eaux, the French utility, 29 per cent. Iberdrola, the Spanish power group, has 15 per cent.

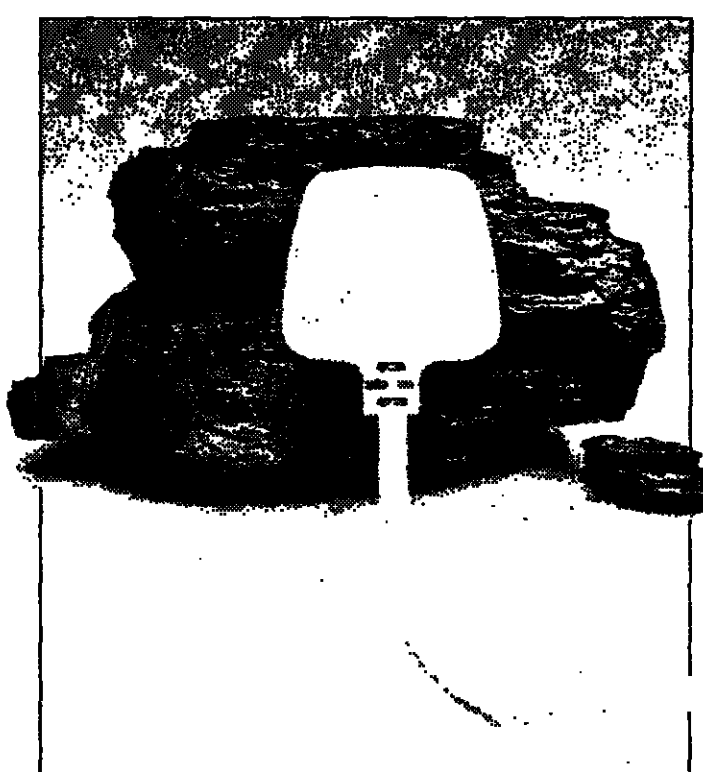
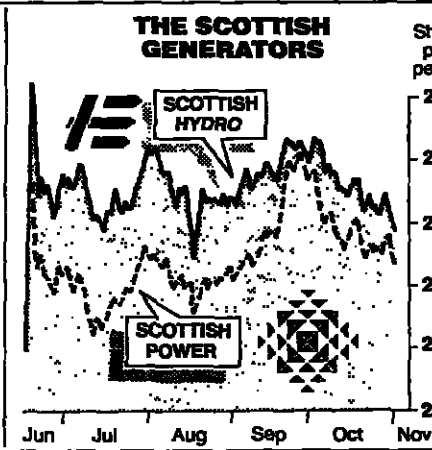
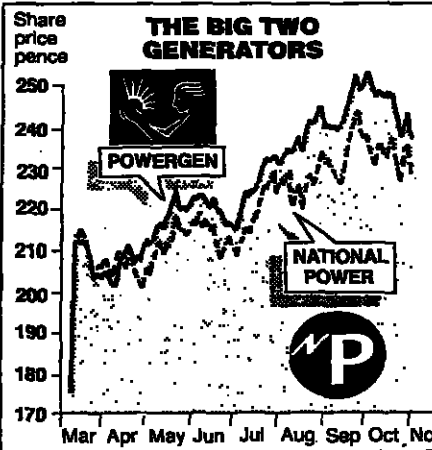
The first project in its bid to become the third force in power generation in England and Wales is an 800MW power station at Sutton Bridge, Lincolnshire, costing £400 million.

At the smaller end of the independent market, environmental considerations are just as important as with the large power stations. Several companies have built or plan generators that will produce power from waste.

Norweb, the north western distribution company, says it has opened the country's first landfill gas installation at Stretford, Manchester, producing electricity for about 1,500 homes.



Carlo Ripa de Meana



British COAL

Offer suppliers cannot refuse

The man with the job of ensuring fair pricing and competition between suppliers is shaking up the industry

Electricity pricing has erupted as a key issue, thanks to Professor Stephen Littlechild, the electricity regulator. As director general of electricity supply, heading the Office of Electricity Regulation (Offer), Professor Littlechild has shown his teeth as a watchdog in two ways, sinking the two big, privatised, non-nuclear generating companies and separately at some of the 12 electricity distributors.

Generators such as National Power and PowerGen should, the theory runs, be competitive because they are exposed to market forces. A dozen independent generation projects are on the cards, their licences granted by Offer. There is also competition from other energy sources. But the biggest single factor in electricity power generation pricing is energy costs as a whole, including oil.

Professor Littlechild is heartened by the signs of growing competition. "At this stage of the game, with privatisation only just started, it is very encouraging that so many new generating plants are coming in. The dozen licences will add up to more than 5,000 megawatts." The Scottish generators are also upgrading the interconnector pipeline for sending power

into England and Wales, potentially doubling the interconnector capacity.

The distribution companies, far less exposed to direct competition, have to meet performance criteria, adjusted according to their circumstances, set out in their licence to operate. It is part of Professor Littlechild's job to enforce the performance of the distributors.

On the generating side there has been growing concern about possible market rigging, the allegations having arisen because of unexplained price surges during August and September. There have been complaints from electricity users who ask why prices did not fall during the summer when demand is at its lowest.

Professor Littlechild has called for more information from National Power and PowerGen to help his office disentangle what has been happening in the electricity spot market, or pool.

The generators offer capacity to the pool stations in the form of price bids, which can

change every half hour. The National Grid Company ranks the bids in a merit order so it can schedule the use of plant in the most cost-effective manner. The prices are set a day ahead. The more electricity required at a given time, the more expensive is the generation plant needed to meet it, and the higher the price.

Spikes, or price surges, are a characteristic of the system. The most noticeable of the spikes now being investigated came on September 9 when the price rose to £160 a megawatt hour, a record. Professor Littlechild is expected to give a ruling on the issue at the latest by early next month while setting out any changes he wants.

One suggestion put to Offer, which is being considered, is for Professor Littlechild to ask the generators to sell off some key power stations. They would be the ones used to meet peak demand by injecting a quick surge of power, typically at higher cost. If there has been manipulation of the market it would have

probably involved the use of such stations. Another possibility is for Professor Littlechild to refer the matter to the Monopolies and Mergers Commission.

Amid the flurry over the generation prices, Offer has also fired a warning shot at seven of the electricity distributors. They have been told they are likely to have overcharged their franchise customers by nearly £100 million this financial year.

Professor Littlechild has pointed out to them that retail price inflation is running at a lower level than was assumed by the companies when making their last submissions to him. This puts a question mark over their prices staying inside the levels set out in their licences. He has suggested that options for rectifying the position include reducing tariffs by a uniform percentage or alternatively by giving a flat-rate refund.

He has also written to the other five distributors saying that while they have not exceeded their licence conditions they should consider passing on the benefits of lower inflation to customers.

A number of big companies have wanted to choose their electricity supplier — so getting the best terms — instead of being forced to buy from their regional company. Only customers using more than one megawatt of power have freedom of choice, although this benchmark is due to be reduced in 1994 and dropped entirely in 1996.

Rules at present lay down that several companies at a single site, even if part of the same group, will be treated separately under the one megawatt rule. Marks & Spencer and Allied Lyons have been victims of this rule, which Professor Littlechild is re-examining.



Price is right: Professor Stephen Littlechild, the director general of electricity supply

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National Power
Ahead of current thinking.

Three little maids from the crammer

School lessons alone will not guarantee

Naoko Saitou and her friends a

university place in Japan. David Tytler

reports on an education system in peril

Naoko Saitou looked at her digital alarm clock. It was one minute past twelve, the third night that week she had stayed up late to finish homework after returning from private tuition just after ten.

Like all her friends in the sixth form at Fujimi High School, just outside Tokyo, 18-year-old Naoko is desperate to attend university. She wants to study home economics and perhaps become a kindergarten teacher.

The crucial examinations are in March and Naoko will be able to retake them until she passes. However, the five and a half days a week of school lessons alone will not be enough and her parents are spending about £200 a month to give her the extra tuition all families accept is necessary. Her parents, who run a flat letting agency, send Naoko to three-hour individual lessons three times a week. Private crammers, called *juku*, also run small classes or lectures for between 60 and 100 people. Naoko says: "The *juku* gives you special help with the university examinations. Those people that do fall out can take extra lessons and can pass eventually. It is not that it is easy to pass but most people do."

While at school, Naoko and her friends, Kaori Kondo, aged 17, and Shonobu Osanai, aged 18, follow a regime that few British teenagers would find acceptable. They wear a uniform of white blouse, blue jumper and short skirt, white socks and black shoes. They cannot wear make-up or jewellery and are not allowed to drive. "The school thinks it would distract us," says Naoko.

Besides the six hours of *juku* homework she receives each week, Naoko also has school homework, with which friends tend to help each other. "Our school home-

work is not marked but we do have to prepare pieces of work," she says.

Fujimi school is a well-equipped, modern school, unlike many state schools in the area. Although class sizes are small in rural and city centre schools, many in the suburbs of Tokyo and Osaka have classes of between 40 and 50 pupils.

The competition for university places is so intense that some parents enrol their children into private schools attached to universities when they are only 18 months old. As for the two top state universities, Tokyo and Kyoto, only one in ten of those who apply are admitted. Few high school candidates win a university place at the first attempt, and most have to spend up to two years in extra study. The elite private universities of Waseda, Keio and Rikkyo are now as difficult to enter as the best state universities. The private school system attached

'The only correct answer is the one that the teacher has told you in class, even if sometimes there can be more than one answer'

to them gives children a better chance of entry at 19, which accounts for the rush to enrol children as young as possible.

The all-important trick is to get into a university. Once there, the pressure will be off Naoko and her friends. They will find it fairly easy to pass their examinations and find jobs because little attention is paid to the quality of the degree.

The paradox of Japan is that one of the most economically powerful countries in the world has an education system stuck in the 1950s which cannot deliver the all-round education its young people need if the country is to influence world affairs. Quite simply, it does not teach children to think.

There is growing concern in government, universities and among businessmen that Japanese



Study circle: the lights rarely go out before midnight for Naoko, left, Kaori and Shonobu in the effort to win that vital university place

children are given too narrow an education. The average Japanese teenager is undoubtedly strong on basic skills but is more inhibited and less confident than his or her British counterpart. The basics are drilled in but the intellectual and social skills needed to use them to best advantage are missing.

Britain could learn from the Japanese attention to detail, while the Japanese could benefit from the wider education that is the hallmark of British schools, where children are allowed to question teachers and reach acceptable answers through discussion.

As Naoko says: "The only correct answer for the questions in the examinations is the one that the teacher has told you in class, even if sometimes there can be more than one answer."

Although Naoko has learnt English for six years she cannot use it conversationally because teaching has concentrated on reading and writing with little spoken English taught.

Only now are people beginning to question the traditional teach-

ing methods imposed by the Americans in 1945, when they set up a state school system of elementary schools from seven to 11, junior high schools from 11 to 15 and senior high schools from 15 to 18.

Taisuke Yoshida, dean of the private Kunitachi College of Music, which has 3,600 pupils each paying £3,000 a year, says: "Young people used to show great respect for their seniors, but the old values are being challenged. Students used to look to their teachers for common sense and moral values but now everything is being questioned. It is up to us to try to close the gap. But it is very

difficult to change overnight."

In the 1950s, only 8 per cent of high school graduates went on to four-year university courses. Last year, it had risen to 24.5 per cent. If the two-year junior college courses are included, the figure is 36.3 per cent. In Britain, about one in five sixthformers continue into higher education, a ratio the government aims to raise to one in three by the end of the century.

Japan has 96 national and regional universities and 39 local universities, but most students attend one of 372 private universities.

Companies tend to have more jobs than high-quality applicants,

so the competition for graduates from good universities is intense. Students find themselves bombarded with recruitment leaflets from the major companies as they near the end of their studies. In the technical field, more than two out of three applicants get jobs if they reach the shortlist after rigorous initial screening.

The number of students entering the jobs market is declining as more young people take part-time or casual jobs rather than embark on a career after graduating.

Once it was the goal of all young Japanese to find a good university and then a job for life with a reputable company which would act as employer, social service, and mentor. In the past, only a handful of employees voluntarily left the company they started with. That tradition is being challenged, and about half the young men in their twenties now say they can imagine changing jobs.

There is also a growing realisation that rote learning and total commitment to a company produces undeveloped adults and can

SCHOOLING: THE HIDDEN COSTS

Education in Japanese state schools is free but parents can spend huge sums on extra tuition for their children. An insurance company estimates that to take a child from kindergarten through a state university costs parents 6.6 million yen, or about £30,000. If a child goes to a private university, the cost rises to more than £40,000. A complete private education costs £63,000.

Entrance fees to the high schools attached to the most popular private universities in Tokyo are £1,000 at Waseda, and £1,700 at Keio. Annual fees are £1,800 and £2,200, respectively.

Average monthly salaries in Japan, which include a six-month bonus every year, are: managers: £27,300; clerical workers: £16,000; production workers: £13,650; engineers: £13,200.

Executives receive additional monthly payments for non-working wives of about £100 month and £25 for each child.

lead to family problems. Most fathers see their children only on Sundays and on holidays, and many executives do not even see them then — because they are working. Twelve-hour days, followed by nights out with the boss, are not uncommon.

More and more retired executives find that they simply cannot cope without work. Michiya Kudo, who lives in a good residential area of Tokyo, works two hours a day sweeping parks. A former electronics engineer, he tried to find similar work when he retired, but after three years of fruitless searching he took the first job he could find.

Masaaki Shiraiishi, of the Japanese Well-Aging Association, says: "The *kaisha ningen* (company men) do not know what to do after they retire. Work was everything to them."

The quest is now on for education reforms that continue to provide basic skills and inculcate the work ethic but also allow people to develop their personalities and think for themselves.

THE CHOICE: PUBLIC OR PRIVATE

Number of pupils in Japan in 1990:

| | Public | Private | % private |
|---------------------|-----------|-----------|-----------|
| Elementary | 9,157,404 | 65,041 | 0.7 |
| Junior high schools | 5,188,316 | 210,920 | 4.0 |
| Senior high schools | 5,456,352 | 157,434 | 2.89 |
| Colleges | 504,097 | 483,418 | 91.8 |
| Universities | 2,205,435 | 1,610,554 | 73.0 |

Tots join up the musical dots

The scene is beginning: nine four- and five-year-olds sitting with their mothers at electronic keyboards, making recognisable music, sometimes playing in unison, sometimes in harmony, sometimes playing different parts at the same time. They start together, sometimes get lost in the middle, but invariably end together.

An essential part of the lessons are politeness to their teachers and courtesy to their mothers, who have to come with them and help with the homework they are given every week. At the end of the hour-long lessons, which cost £24 a month, the children always sing a song by way of thank-you to their mothers who have sat nervously with them at the keyboard.

The children have already spent a year at school by the time they are four, when they have learnt to sing, to dance, to listen to music, and to tap percussion in rhythm. "We want them to enjoy their music," says Kumiko Hiroike, their teacher and a piano graduate from a Tokyo music college. By the time they are four they can read basic music and play simple chords by ear. Lynes would say the schools are part of a clever sales policy by Yamaha Corporation which runs them and makes the specially designed keyboards the children learn on. And they would be right. Parents sometimes buy not only the keyboard but a piano and tend to replace



Youngsters go through their paces in Kumiko Hiroike's class



The Japanese Primary School Anthem, written by the education ministry, has been sung by school leavers at the end of every primary school year for the last 90 years.

How much I owe to my teachers
How much I owe to them
How fast the days
How swift the days

How quickly they flew by
How I'll miss the life here
Farewell to thee
Farewell to thee
I say farewell to thee!

them with the latest models as their children progress. The children, though, do have fun, and many of the girls at the schools continue

Boys tend to drop out, because in this male-dominated society music is not seen as an essential skill when it comes to finding a well-paid job, which is the driving ambition all Japanese parents have for their sons.

There are other methods of teaching music but these schools claim that their particular skill is in teaching children together. All of them, however, tend to be criticised by purists, who believe you have to teach theory before moving to a real instrument. The four-year-olds in Tokyo were playing together a simplified but recognisable version of Saint-Saëns's *Carnival of the Animals*.

Teachers at the schools believe that the children get more fun out of learning and playing together than from single lessons laced with heavy doses of theory. They argue that the theory will come through practice.

"After two years, most children want to know more about their music," says Mrs Hiroike. "I also give individual lessons but I am now a great believer in group teaching. By playing and singing together they become secure in their music. They learn to work with other children, which they can take into other areas of their lives."

"The most important thing, though, is for them to enjoy their music. Even if there is something bad in their life we can let them forget about those things by just letting them enjoy their music."

according to a survey by the Grant Maintained Schools Foundation. Most were hoping to add a sixth form or alter the age range of pupils. Of the 41 schools returning questionnaires, nine out of ten have more pupils this year.

Mapping error

LOUGHBOROUGH University of Technology was given an unintended new lease of life in the map of English universities on last week's education pages. Granted its charter in 1966, the university was wrongly included among those to change status under the further and higher education bill.

JOHN O'LEARY

NOTICEBOARD

affected particularly. The MPs are also conducting a short enquiry into music in schools, concentrating on the resources, facilities and staffing available for the subject.

Alert to hackers

SCHOOLS and local authorities are resorting to anti-bugging devices to protect their computer systems from young hackers. A survey of 80 authorities by Management Software Ltd found the market for virus protection packages was growing fast.

Robert Royce, the firm's marketing manager, said that incidents in universities and polytechnics had alerted

schools to the danger of sabotage.

Three in a row

OXFORD University has scored a hat-trick with the award of the third Giovanni Agnelli prize. The biennial award, worth £200,000, has gone to Sir Ralf Dahrendorf, the master of St Antony's College, for the ethical content of his work in a range of social sciences.

Opting for change

ALMOST a third of schools opting out of local authority control are thinking of a change of character, but only one is considering selection,

MPs study student debt

A SELECT committee of MPs is to investigate student hardship over the summer vacation, following reports of widespread financial difficulties resulting from the withdrawal of welfare benefits. Vice-chancellors and other advice bureaux have claimed that students have dropped out of courses because of their debts.

The education committee will not consider the merits of student loans, but will examine whether student support is adequate and whether mature students and those from poor backgrounds are af-

SIXTH FORM ENTRY 1992

Scholarships and a limited number of ordinary places are available for boys of high academic ability wishing to enter the Sixth Form in September 1992.

There are four Scholarships. Each is worth half fees and may be supplemented where parental income requires it.

Admission is by examination and interview held on the weekend of Friday 31st January and Saturday 1st February 1992. Full details may be obtained from:

The Headmaster, Shrewsbury School,
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Telephone: (0743) 344537

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Music

Up to four music scholarships, maximum value of half-fees, are awarded in February.

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Applications are invited for the above post, which is tenable from 1 October 1992 or as soon as possible thereafter, stipend on the age-related scale £12,800 - £25,343 per annum. The successful candidate may be offered a fellowship by St. Antony's College. Further particulars (containing details of the duties and full range of emoluments and allowances attaching to both the university and the college posts) may be obtained from Catherine Goodman, Secretary to the Anthropology and Geography Board, The Oriental Institute, Pusey Lane, Oxford OX1 2LE, to whom applications should be sent not later than 15 January 1992.

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Details of the post may be obtained from:

Mrs B. R. Miller, The Clerk to the Governors
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For application form and further particulars (Ref 134/89) contact Personnel Office, University of Strathclyde, Glasgow G1 1XQ. Applications closing date 8th December 1991.

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The Department of Microbiology Lectureship in Microbiology. Applications are invited for the above post. The preferred area is molecular genetics but candidates with interests in other areas, eg. immunology, will be considered. The appointee will be expected to initiate independent research programmes and undertake teaching and administrative commitments in the Department and the School. The Department of Microbiology has recently moved into new purpose built laboratories which have excellent facilities for research including Category 2 containment facilities. Salary scale £12,690 to £17,953 per annum (Grade A) plus USS benefits. Further particulars and application forms (2 copies) are available from the Personnel Office, University of Reading, Whiteknights PO Box 217, Reading, RG6 2AH. Tel: 07341 317751. More information about this post may be obtained from either the Head of Department of Microbiology (Dr J.M. Gwynne) or Professor J.W. Almond, Department of Microbiology, Whiteknights PO Box 220, Reading, RG6 2AH, telephone 07341 318051. Please quote Ref A09122. Closing date 30 November 1991.

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Huddersfield show potential for promotion

Marsden's quality in midfield helps to displace leaders

By KEITH BLACKMORE

HUDDERSFIELD Town demonstrated strength and organisation in knocking Birmingham City from the top of the third division on Saturday and their 3-2 win at Leeds Road confirmed their own place among the contenders for promotion.

Birmingham had their moments, scored two fine goals, but they were chasing the game from the eighth minute, when Roberts headed in Marsden's precise cross, and never caught up.

Roberts's strength in the air was to be a threat all afternoon and Birmingham's task was made no easier by their goalkeeper's weak punching at higher crosses. By contrast, Clarke dominated his area, greatly assisted by a splendid performance in central defence by Jackson, who was singled out for praise afterwards by his manager, Eoin Hand.

Better still was Marsden, who gave as complete a performance in midfield as one could wish to see, and it was his intervention, two minutes after the interval, that extended the Huddersfield lead. He dispossessed Peer on the edge of the Birmingham penalty area, reached the by-

line and his low cross left Roberts with a simple tap-in. There seemed to be no way back for Birmingham then, but Gieghorn revived their hopes with a splendid shot from the edge of the penalty area which set up a thrilling final 30 minutes.

Play ranged from end to end until a magnificent pass from Marsden allowed Onuora, who had come on for the injured Starbuck, to round Thomas for Huddersfield's third. Matthews kept Birmingham interested with a curling free kick, from 20 yards, but an equaliser proved beyond them.

The result allowed Brentford, who beat Wigan Athletic with two goals each by Holdsworth and Blissett, to regain the leadership. Birmingham are second, a point ahead of Huddersfield and West Bromwich Albion, who beat Reading with goals by Robson and Goodman.

The leading quartet is six points clear as the League season reaches its first scheduled break — the first round of the FA Cup occupies next weekend — but Hand is not jumping to any conclusions. "So many things can happen between now and the end of the

season," he said. "We are entering the period of worsening conditions and you have to keep clear of injuries. Maintaining consistency of selection will be the key."

Phil Holder, the manager of Brentford, admitted that he was delighted to have reached the break so well placed, but he shared Hand's reservations. "I am so cautious," he said yesterday. "As much as I want to go around punching the air, I know there may be problems just around the corner."

He believes that any one of several clubs, including Stoke City, Leyton Orient and Bournemouth, may yet challenge the leaders. "We need our share of luck," he said. "We need our small squad to remain injury-free, and something which is in our own hands, we need to keep free of suspensions. We are fortunate that so many of our players are versatile — that is equivalent to maybe two extra players — and it could be decisive."

HUDDERSFIELD TOWN: T. Clarke, S. Thwait, S. Chantrell, G. Marsden, G. Jackson, C. O'Brien, P. Staddon, I. Roberts, P. Starbuck, J. Onuora, G. Barnett, BIRMINGHAM CITY: M. Thomas, J. Clarke, T. Matthews, D. Peer, G. M. Cooper, M. Hicks, P. Marsden, J. Rodgers, J. Frost, L. Donohue, N. Gieghorn, S. Summings. Referee: J. Wormald.



First blood: Conroy celebrates Burnley's penalty

Burnley gather momentum for promotion race

By IAN ROSS

WITH their 3-2 home win over Mansfield on Saturday, Burnley demonstrated that clubs of great pedigree need not betray their traditions to succeed in the lower echelons of the Football League.

Despite a calamitous slide in fortune over the past 15 years, the present Burnley side continues to placate a loyal support by upholding the club's reputation for tech-

nique rather than mere effort. "We have now been in the fourth division for seven years and that is far too long; we must get out of here," Jimmy Mullen, the Burnley manager, said. "Today, a large crowd saw an excellent match. That is what Burnley is all about. We are certainly not lacking in ambition."

Mansfield, who had won their previous seven away League games, contributed much to an enthralling, if

technically flawed, match which was played out before the largest crowd for a fourth division fixture this season, 11,848. Burnley, in winning their eighth consecutive match, a post-war club record, will feel relieved to have accrued maximum points, such was their defensive laxness on occasions.

Had the referee felt inclined to enforce the letter of the law in the seventh minute, the afternoon would certainly

have been spared such a dramatic climax, for Pearce, the Mansfield goalkeeper, could scarcely have complained had he been dismissed for a professional foul on Francis as he shaped to tap the ball into an unguarded net. Conroy converted the ensuing penalty, but Mansfield drew level with a fine Wilkinson strike after 30 minutes.

Wilkinson restored the status quo for a second time in the 61st minute after Davis

had headed the home side back in front, and a draw seemed probable until Pender rose from a cluster of players to turn home Jakub's corner.

Barnet displaced Mansfield at the head of the fourth division with a 3-0 win over Halifax Town at Underhill.

BURNLEY: A. Marriott, P. Francis, J. Jakub, S. Davis, J. Pender, A. Pender, S. Hargreave, J. Deary, J. Francis, I. Roberts, M. Conroy, G. Lancashire. MANSFIELD TOWN: J. Pearce, P. Pender, P. Carr, S. Spooner, G. Fox, G. Foster, G. Ford, P. Holland, P. Stant, S. Wilkinson, S. Charles. Referee: T. Holbrook.

Mediocrity stretches loyalty to the limits

Laura Thompson dons her thermals and goes in search of the English Eskimo.

She discovers him, frozen on the football terraces, still valiantly calling the Shots

again the thought occurred, surely staying indoors was the better option? How could one choose poms instead? The bemused brain mused as the exposed ears listened. "Come on you Shots," urged the supporters, middle-aged men interspersed with loping youths who wished they lived in Highbury. "That's the way, Shots." The Shots were shot at. "Oh dear, oh dear." The Shots were shot at again. "Oh dear, oh bloody dear." The Shots shot. "Yes!" Half-time, 2-1 to Cardiff.

The second half contained no Shots shots and no anti-Shots shots. Rather, it contained a lot of toing and froing, by supporters behaving like people who wanted to leave a bad party but were being constantly drawn back to it in the hope that it might have improved. Certainly it did not contain an explanation of the desire to spend a Friday evening in November watching a fourth-division football match.

If I was going to this game, then I was going to it properly. I had to know what it was really like to spend a Friday evening in November watching a fourth-division football match: and this meant standing outside on the terraces, with strata of clothing built around me. There must be no comfortable skulking in the press box. There must be no comfortable carousing in the vice-president's club. There must not even be a comfortable seat.

Instead, feeling at once hot, cold and mountainous, like a collapsed baked Alaska, I and my layers must insinuate ourselves onto the tiny terraces and prepare for absolute discomfort.

After five minutes of absolute discomfort and incidental football, my ears, the only unprotected part of me, had had enough and were pleading with me to put them in the car and take them home. A woman in front of me was wearing royal blue wool pom-poms over her head, a good idea, but

of that mysterious energy that can transform a game into an occasion. There were simply too few people to enable that familiar merging of the individual into a common purpose.

Supporting a club like Aldershot, which lies around the bottom of the fourth division, which is threatened with extinction and which is apparently disliked by its own manager (Brian Talbot in the programme: "I am certainly at the lowest ebb of my lengthy career in the game... the entire playing staff have been placed on the transfer list"), will not yield the transcendent pleasures felt by supporters of successful clubs. But that does not mean that it will yield none at all.

I felt that I was not the only person attending out of a sense of duty. Laughing through frozen tears, sobbing with smiling exasperation, the supporters there because the lesser your club, the greater your duty to stand by it. An Arsenal supporter feels important because his club confers its prestige upon him. An Aldershot supporter feels important because he is needed and no discomfort will keep him from the perverse pleasure of standing in Arctic winds for two hours watching his team lose.

The English love to be an important part of something unimportant. Equally, they love an unimportant reason to have a jolly good moan. Which perhaps goes some way to explaining the English Eskimo, miserably sickening by his beloved team, and readily relishing the money spent upon a fleece-lined anorak — that could be buying a restaurant dinner or a bottle of champagne, excellent cheer and a fully-turned-up radiator.



Talbot: at a low ebb

Court of Appeal

Law Report November 11 1991

Queen's Bench Division

Discretion to set off costs

Lockley v National Blood Transfusion Service
Before Lord Justice Farquharson, Lord Justice Scott and Sir John Megaw
[Judgment November 5]

Where one party was legally aided a court had jurisdiction at the interlocutory stage of proceedings to make an order for costs in favour of the other party directing that the costs be set off against either damages or costs to which the legally aided party had or could in future become entitled in the action.

The Court of Appeal so held dismissing an appeal by the legally aided plaintiff, Marie Lockley, from the decision of Mr Justice May-Jones who on June 12, 1990 who had affirmed the decision of the district registrar's order for costs against the plaintiff.

Regulation 124 of the Civil Legal Aid (General) Regulations 1989 No 339 provides: "(1) Where proceedings have been concluded in which an assisted person... is liable... for costs... no costs... shall be payable from him until the court has determined the amount of his liability in accordance with section 17(1)..."

Section 16(6) of the 1988 Act gave the Legal Aid Board a

charge on any property which was recovered or preserved for the legally assisted person in the proceedings but section 16(8) provided that the charge created by subsection (6) on any damages or costs should not prevent a court allowing them to be set off against other damages or costs in any case where a solicitor's lien for costs would not prevent it.

Section 16(8) did not, in his Lordship's judgment, create any new right of set-off. It simply preserved the rights of set-off that the general law would allow and protected them against the charge created by section 16(8).

The effect of the subsection was that whatever rights of set-off were available under the general law were available against legally aided parties notwithstanding the board's charge.

The reference in section 17(1) of the 1988 Act to "the liability of an assisted person" must, in his Lordship's judgment, be construed as a reference to a liability to pay. The reference in regulation 124(1) of the 1989 Regulations to "a person who... is liable... for costs" must be construed as "liable to pay costs".

Solicitors: E. Rex Makin & Co, Liverpool; Hill Dickinson Davis Campbell, Liverpool.

The operation of a set-off did not place the person whose costs in action was thereby reduced or extinguished under an obligation to pay. The operation of a set-off in respect of the liability of a legally assisted person under an order for costs did not require the legally aided person to pay anything.

It did not lead to any costs being recoverable against the legally aided person. Accordingly, in his Lordship's judgment, there was nothing in section 17(1) or in regulation 124(1) to prevent the set-off.

An assessment of the amount that it would be reasonable for the legally aided person to pay was not therefore a pre-condition of, and had nothing to do with set-off.

In general, in his Lordship's opinion, interlocutory costs incurred in the progress of an action to trial and ordered to be paid by a plaintiff to a defendant did not in equity impede the right of the plaintiff to recover from the defendant the costs of the action ordered to be paid by the defendant.

The plaintiffs, haulage contractors, had sought advice from the solicitors whether they had a cause of action against the suppliers and subsequent repairers of a vehicle they had purchased and which had broken down twice.

The solicitors had instructed Mr Neve, an engineer, as an expert witness. After receiving his reports they had gone to trial but after the first plaintiff and the expert had given evidence the plaintiffs abandoned their claim and by consent judgment was given for the defendants with costs.

In the instant proceedings, the plaintiffs alleged that both the solicitors and expert witness were in breach of their contractual duty of care. Both defendants denied the allegations, but for present purposes, his Lordship had to assume that the facts alleged were true.

Mr Nicholas Wood for the plaintiffs; Mr Laurence Marsh for the solicitors; Mr Charles Utley for Mr Neve.

HIS LORDSHIP said that the appeal raised the question whether an expert could be sued in respect of any and if so what pre-trial work which he did for his client.

The summons raised the question as to whether the pleading impugned the correctness of a previous decision of the court.

It was well settled that witnesses in either civil or criminal proceedings enjoyed immunity from any form of civil action in respect of evidence given during those proceedings.

The reason for that immunity was so that witnesses might give their evidence fearlessly and to

No immunity for expert witnesses

Palmer and Another v Durnford Ford (a firm) and Another
Before Mr Simon Tuckey, QC
[Judgment October 31]

An expert witness could not claim immunity from suit by his clients for his actions in the course of preparing evidence for a claim or a possible claim.

Mr Simon Tuckey, QC, sitting as a deputy judge of the Queen's Bench Division, so held in a judgment delivered in open court after a hearing in chambers, when allowing the appeal by Peter Brian Palmer and Marion Patricia Palmer against the decision of District Judge Catlin on July 12, 1991 who, on the application of the second defendant, Mr David J. Neve, an expert witness, had struck out their writ and statement of claim on the ground that they disclosed no reasonable cause of action.

There was also a summons by Durnford Ford, solicitors, the first defendants, to strike out the statement of claim on the ground that it was an abuse of the process of court.

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The reason for that immunity was so that witnesses might give their evidence fearlessly and to

avoid a multiplicity of actions in which the value or truth of their evidence would be tried over again: see *Roy v Prior* ([1970] AC 470, 480).

That immunity also applied to the preparation of the evidence which was to be given in court: see *Murrian v Vbart* ([1963] 1 QB 528).

Mr Neve submitted that whenever an expert was retained with the possibility that he might have to give evidence, he was immune from suit for everything which he did, including where he negligently advised that there was no claim with the result that the plaintiff suffered loss because by the time he realised he had a good claim, it had become statute-barred.

His Lordship noted that experts were usually liable to their clients for advice given in breach of their contractual duty of care and that the immunity was based upon public policy and should therefore only be conferred where it was absolutely necessary to do so.

Thus, *prima facie* the immunity should only be adopted in cases where it would mean that expert witnesses would be inhibited from giving

truthful and fair evidence in court.

Generally, his Lordship did not think that liability for failure to give careful advice to his client should inhibit an expert from giving truthful and fair evidence in court.

His Lordship could see no good reason why an expert should not be liable for the advice which he gave to his client as to the merits of the claim, particularly if proceedings had not been started, and a *fortiori* as to whether he was qualified at all.

His Lordship thought that a similar approach as taken in *Saif Ali v Sydney Mitchell & Co* ([1980] AC 198) could be adopted in the case of an expert witness. Thus, the immunity would only extend to what could fairly be said to be preliminary to his giving evidence in court, judged perhaps by the principal purpose for which the work was done.

The production or approval of a report for the purposes of disclosure to the other side would be immune; but work done for the principal purpose of advising the client would not.

Each case would depend upon its own facts with the court

concerned to protect the expert from liability for the evidence which he gave in court and the work principally and proximately leading thereto.

As to the summons, the plaintiffs contended that the previous judgment by consent was not a final decision because the court did not pronounce on the merits of the case.

His Lordship disagreed. A final decision of the court was one which would give rise to a plea of *res judicata*. Such a decision was one which left nothing to be judicially determined or ascertained thereafter in order to render it effective.

Applying that test, there could be no doubt that the decision of the court was a final one. It mattered not that the judgment was by consent: see *Cohen v Joneco* ([1926] 1 KB 119, 125).

In order to decide that part of their original claim was good, the plaintiffs had necessarily to impugn the original decision. Therefore, that part of their claim was struck out.

Solicitors: Mayo & Perkins, Enfield; Baker, Lapthorne, Fareham; Perring & Co, Hastings.

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Confidentiality reason for hearings in secret

Polly Peck International plc v Nadir and Others
Before Lord Donaldson of Lynton, Master of the Rolls and Lord Justice Glidewell
[Judgment November 1]

On applications for *Mareva* injunctions, including those made *ex parte* against banks or similar institutions which depended on confidence in their financial stability if they were to carry on business normally.

Allegations which were later proved to be without foundation could cause irreparable damage if made public at an earlier stage. That damage was caused to customers as well as to the bank.

Any court faced with proceedings which raised issues as to the confidence which could be reposed in the financial stability of a bank or a building society could expect to be asked to consider hearing evidence and argument *in camera* and even in some circumstances to give judgment *in camera* pending an appeal.

Where proceedings were begun *ex parte* in the absence of the bank, the court should of its own motion consider whether it should sit *in camera* or adjourn into chambers. In so doing it was always necessary also to take into account the legitimate interests of the customers and depositors who might continue dealing with the bank, while

justice to be administered openly and for the preservation of confidence and confidentiality until the parties' rights were finally determined.

A special problem was created in the case of banks, building societies and similar institutions which utterly depended on confidence in their financial stability if they were to carry on business normally.

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unknown to them, the proceedings were on foot.

In the present case, the bank had sought to apply for a *Mareva* injunction. That was surprising since November 5 had already been fixed as the date when all the evidence would be before the court and a final decision made.

If an appeal had been embarked on with a full hearing the appellate court could not have reached a decision before November 5. Furthermore, it would have necessitated rearranging the appellate court's list by turning out other appeals due to be heard in the next few days. That would have been unjust to the parties to those appeals.

The Court of Appeal did on occasions take that course, but not unless there were wholly exceptional circumstances which justified it.

The bank's complaint that the injunction as granted by the judge prevented its using its assets in the ordinary course of business so as to give rise to doubts about its financial stability could be met by varying the order until the hearing on November 5 without the necessity of having a full appeal.

Lord Justice Glidewell agreed.

Solicitors: Theodore Goddard; Alsop Wilkinson.

Identification as opposed to recognition

Regina v Fergus
Before Lord Justice Glidewell, Mr Justice Hodgson and Mr Justice Buxton
[Judgment November 6]

Where a complainant had seen his alleged attacker on only one occasion prior to the attack, the judge was wrong to treat it as a case of recognition rather than identification and he should not have allowed a dock identification.

The Court of Appeal so held in a reserved judgment of the court allowing the appeal of Joseph Fergus against his conviction at Guildhall Crown Court (Mr Recorder Archer, QC and a jury) on charges of wounding with intent and affray.

Mr Adam Davis, instructed by the Registrar of Criminal Appeals, for the appellant; Mr Peter Cooper for the prosecution.

LORD JUSTICE GLIDEWELL said that at the trial the victim had given evidence that he had been stabbed by the appellant. The victim had seen the appellant only once before the incident. The appellant had been walking in the street and he had been told "That's Joseph Fergus".

As no identification parade or confrontation had been arranged the prosecution sought, and was granted, leave to ask the victim if the man he knew as Joseph Fergus was in court.

The issue was whether the judge had been correct to allow that question to be asked.

The court recognised that a distinction must be drawn between the case of a complainant who claimed to recognise his assailant as a person whom, before the commission of the alleged offence, he already knew well and that of a complainant who claimed to identify his assailant as a person whom he had never seen before the incident.

Where the complainant claimed to recognise a person whom he did not know well, but had only seen previously once or on a few occasions, his evidence might well have to be treated as evidence of identification rather than recognition.

The better the complainant knew the defendant the more the jury were entitled to treat his evidence as recognition; the opposite also applied.

In a case of genuine recognition there was little or no point in holding an identification parade because the defendant was virtually bound to be identified by the complainant in such a case.

If, however, the complainant did not claim to know the person well the situation be-

came one of identification rather than recognition. In such a case an identification parade was desirable, and an identification in the dock equally undesirable.

In the court's view, one previous sight of Joseph Fergus did not make this a case of recognition; it remained a case of identification.

To ask a complainant, in such circumstances, the question permitted in the present case was nearly equivalent to asking him "Do you see the man who stabbed you in court?"

Solicitors: CPS, Central Courts.

Offshore Services and Smit Tak BV, from the decision of Mr Justice Sheen in January 1991 that the defendants, Mr John Youell and the other members of Syndicate 615 at Lloyd's and General Accident Fire and Life Assurance Corporation plc, were not liable under a policy giving indemnity for "any liability" incurred in connection with the plaintiffs' activities anywhere in the world.

LORD JUSTICE MUSTILL said that the plaintiffs, following an unsuccessful salvage attempt, removed the wreck of the Mare from where it had become a navigational hazard just outside

the territorial waters of Dubai. They did so to comply with an instruction that their failure to do so would result in their licence to operate in Dubai waters not being renewed.

The plaintiffs' umbrella policy was designed to scoop up liabilities not covered by other policies. But the plaintiffs were not in any ordinary sense of the word "liable" for the cost of removing the wreck.

Put to a commercial election they acquiesced to an instruction that had no legal justification. The losses thereby incurred were not recoverable under the policy.

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| Southend United | 3 |
| Swindon Town | 2 |

ANYONE disillusioned with the future of the English game after the sub-standard performances of some of our clubs in European competition last week, should have done as George Graham, the Arsenal manager, and about 7,000 other people did on Saturday by going back to the roots — Roots Hall that is.

Judging by some people's opinion of the quality left in the second division, they might just as well make them forthcoming Premier League or closed superstore here and now. Promotion candidates — anywhere up to about 12 of them — may not have the charisma and support to suit the elitists, but, when it comes to entertainment value and the correct approach to the game, some of them could still

| | |
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| Brighton | 1 |
| Middlesbrough | 1 |

THE mystery of Middlesbrough's missing midfield proved increasingly puzzling at the Goldstone Ground on Saturday. Why did Lennie Lawrence field the lightweight duo of Jamie Pollock and Robbie Mustoe in an imbalanced 4-2-4 formation, and why was Mark Proctor kept warming the bench?

Over-elaboration used to be the Treasider team's downfall, so the new manager was right to make his side more direct, but not to the point of bypassing the midfield.

To anyone who regarded Middlesbrough as a pretty-passing unit, this game came as a culture shock. In theory, a fleet-footed attack featuring Hendrie and Marwood wide, and Ripley and Wilkinson in the middle, suggested vibrancy. Instead, with service wanting, it supplied frustration.

Ripley, who still thinks he is a winger, did not help by repeatedly veering that way, while Fleming and Phillips, the full backs, were too troubled defensively to overlap effectively.

teach the first division a thing
or two.

That is not really surprising when you look at some of the tutors that it can boast: Glenn Hoddle, Osvaldo Ardiles, Kenny Dalglish, John Lyall, Arthur Cox. To that illustrious list one could add the unlikely name of David Webb, more one of life's artisans than artists. The way Southampton United played was a credit to him, not that you would have gathered so from listening to him afterwards.

"The two teams reflected the different kind of people that Glenn and I are," he said. "We'll probably kick, shout and bite a bit more than what they will. But some of the invention stuff they do, it suits them. You've got to admire old Glenn, he plays a bit of quality. You can see his craftsmanship."

It took two sides, though, to play the kind of game which kept a crowd guessing until the final whistle who was going to

emerge on top. One could only hope that Hoddle does not compromise his beliefs if and when Swindon Town become a member of that exclusive premier club. With the game balanced at 1-1, many an away team manager would have settled for a point, particularly after the pummelling that Swindon took in the first half when they could have trailed to more than just the first of Ansell's two goals.

"I could have changed it tactically and tied it all up at 1-1, but I didn't because I thought we could win the game," Hoddle said. "OK, so it backfired on us, but on another given day that attitude has worked."

"I've got to get the players to believe they are the best footballing side in the division. If we assert ourselves nobody can live with us for footballing ability. I know it, some of the senior players know it, but the younger ones still have to be convinced. That's my job."

Swindon's sweet passing game threatened to overwhelm Southend after they had suffered the deflating experience of watching their eighth penalty attempt in nine slip through the net instead of into it.

Austin was the culprit on this occasion and Webb is fast running out of candidates for the job. He has considered giving it to Sansome, the goalkeeper. "The only trouble is, if he misses, it's a long way back to his goal," Webb said. "I showed them how to do it in training on Friday with my John Aldridge shimmy."

Nicky Summerbee, the highly promising son of Mike, was responsible for conceding it with a handball, but the young full back soon made amends with a hand of a different kind in White's

headed equaliser three minutes later. Swindon had discovered the width to unhinge the Southend defence and were in the process of taking off its doors when Southend burst out of them to score twice in four minutes through Angell, again, and the impressive Tilson.

Swindon hit back almost immediately with a goal from Shearer. Given the grandstand finish that it precipitated, it seems almost churlish to mention that Shearer was at least two yards offside at the time.

SOUTHDOWN UNITED: P Sansome; D Austin, C Powell, K Jones, P Scully, Edwards, A Anesh, J Cornwell, S Tilson, I Benjamin, B Angell.

SWINDON TOWN: N Hammond; D Karakale, N Summersbee, T Jones (capt), S Foley, C Caddowood, S Taylor, M Hazzard, D Shearer, F Simpson, R MacLaren, S White. Referee: A W Smith.

Caught off balance: Claridge, of Cambridge United, right, in a close encounter with Thompson, of Ipswich

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| Ipswich Town..... | 1 |
| Cambridge United..... | 2 |

IT HAD been billed as a

IT HAD been billed as a match of contrasting styles — Ipswich's skills and sophistication against the trench warfare waged by Cambridge — but it was more than that. This was a meeting of football philosophies, and brawn beat brain hands down.

Do not be fooled by John Beck's assessment that his team was lucky. The Cambridge manager's observation that Ipswich "played the better football" is unarguable, but while only one goal separated the sides, there was a gulf between them in terms of desire and commitment.

While the purists might shudder at the prospect, Beck is probably also wrong

when he suggests that Camacho and the other players have "no chance" of promotion. "If you are realistic, with our facilities and lack of money, finishing halfway would be successful," he said. From a manager eccentric enough to introduce his players to pre-match cold showers and post-match huddles on the pitch, it would be wise to expect some kidology.

Like them or loathe them, Cambridge, having reached the top of the second division for the first time, may

To describe their style as simple is an understatement, but there can be few more efficient and more disciplined teams. Win it, belt it, chase it, win it again... and if, like Ipswich at Portman Road on Saturday, you are not equal to their physical demands, not prepared to compete and build a platform on which to

For 15 minutes or so, until the tackles began to take their toll of both stamina and spirit, Ipswich had looked the part. Cambridge

needed some luck to survive the opening salvo, and they got it when, after a free kick on the left, Milton hit the base of Vaughan's left-hand post and Dozzell drilled the rebound against the other. In the next hour, the home side rarely got a look-in.

The Cambridge bombardment produced a great chance for Dublin, who shot wide, and the pressure eventually told in the 36th minute. Predictably, it was from a set-piece move. Philpott's corner was flicked on by Dublin and Gary Rowett, a YTS rookie, aged 17, swelled to score his third goal in six games.

Claridge hit the bar on the hour, and with Ipswich's

lone forward, Kiwomya, effectively isolated, their equaliser 11 minutes from time — Johnson creating a chance which Stockwell finished well — came completely out of the blue.

If they had wanted to win the match with a goal which typified their performance, Cambridge could hardly have done it better, three minutes later. Dennis drove in a hopeful cross, the ball deflected off Claridge, Dublin's miscued overhead kick was diverted back across goal by Philpott, and Claridge, single-minded to the last, muscled his way between defenders to force the ball over the line.

IPSWICH TOWNE: C Forrest; G Johnson, N. Thompson, M. Stocwell, J. Ward, D. Urighen, S. Milton, J. Montcur, S. Whitton (subs: F Yallop, J. Dozzell, C. Khwomya).
CAMBRIDGE UNITED: J. Vaughan; A. Fensome, A. Kimble, A. Danna, D. O'Shea, L. Daiseh, G. Rowett (subs: J. Taylor, C. Ballin, D. Dublin, S. Claridge (subs: M. Heathcote), L. Philpott).
Referee: G. Pooley.

DALE Gordon and Tony Mowbray, the Englishmen who made their first appearances for Rangers and Celtic respectively, on Saturday began brightly in Scotland (Roddy Forsyth writes). Gordon, against the bottom club in the Scottish League premier division, Dunfermline Athletic, at East End Park, scored twice in Rangers' 5-0 victory. The other scorers were Gough, Hatelys, and McCoist.

Mowbray, in the Celtic defence for a 2-1 home victory over Aberdeen, touched the ball once in the first 12 minutes, by which stage two goals had been scored. The first, by less of Aberdeen, was equalised by Nicholas, who carried the ball around two defenders and the Aberdeen goalkeeper. Snedders, Creaney scored the winning goal after the interval with a header from a Coyne cross. The most memorable moment was Mowbray shot from 35 yards which struck the junction of an upright and crossbar.

Heart of Midlothian remain top of the league, thanks to a late goal by Hogg which secured a 2-1 defeat of St Johnstone at Tynecastle. Baird scored first and Curran equalised for the visitors.

PETER Robinson, the Liverpool chief executive, yesterday attempted to end speculation that Ian Rush, the Welsh international forward, will leave the club at the end of the season (Ian Ross writes). The four-year contract Rush signed upon his return to Liverpool from Juventus expires this season. Robinson said: "We are preparing to offer Ian a new contract." Rush, aged 30, is seeking an improved, long-term contract and is still valued in excess of £1.5 million.

Pointon out

The Coventry City chairman John Pointon, has resigned for "family and business reasons". The Jersey millionaire has been replaced by Peter Robins, a local businessman whose father, Derrick, headed the club's rise to the first division 25 years ago. Robins was the Coventry City chairman in the early Seventies. He resigned his directorship seven years ago.

GARY Speed, aged 22, the exciting Leeds United midfielder player who is in the Wales squad for their European championship qualifying game with Luxembourg, in Cardiff, on Wednesday, has been named the Barclays young eagle for October, by the England manager, Graham Taylor. Bristol Rovers, struggling in the second division, won the Barclays performance-of-the-week award for their 1-0 away victory over Barnsley.

[illegible]

Mackeson first and second set for rematch in Budge Gold Cup

Triple superstition helps Another Coral land cup

By RICHARD EVANS
RACING CORRESPONDENT

THE Flowers Gloucester Band stopped playing, Anna Clarke stayed away and David Nicholson wore his "lucky" red socks to give Another Coral a chance to win the Mackeson Gold Cup at Cheltenham on Saturday.

The near-black eight-year-old not only obliged but provided a bumper crowd with a wonderful taste of the National Hunt delights in store over the coming months, including a rematch between the winner and runner-up in the A F Budge Gold Cup at the same course in four weeks' time.

In the world of racing, there are few sights more exhilarating than watching top chasers running and jumping at full speed in the natural amphitheatre provided by Prestbury Park.

Against a picturesque backdrop of sunlit hillsides, the tussle to the line between Richard Dunwoody on Another Coral and the immensely gifted Adrian Maguire on Toranfield showed the sport off at its best.

Superstition and strange rituals are a part of racing's rich fabric, never more so than with Another Coral. Anne Clarke, a local veterinary assistant, rides the Green Shoon gelding every morning for David Nicholson at the nearby Condote yard.

Every time she has been to watch him race, Another Coral has fallen or endured some mishap. So there was no place for her at jumping's headquarters on Saturday.

Another Coral's aversion to musical bands became apparent three years ago when he "blew his lid" at Sandown. Last November, Dina Nicholson, the trainer's wife, stepped in smartly to ask the Harry Strutters Hot Rhythm Band to stop playing before a race subsequently won by Another Coral. On Saturday she repeated the trick with the Flowers Gloucester Band.

Nicholson, whose red socks are jumping's equivalent of Jack Berry's red shirt, completed the act. In the end the winner needed luck on his side. When Guiburn's Nephew fell four out, Dunwoody had to be at his sharpest to avoid being brought down.

"I always said there was a good race to be won with this horse but in the past, in the Arkle, and the Ardington, something went wrong. Today everything went right," Nicholson said.

Another Coral looked to have the race sewn up after opening up a three-length lead between the last two fences. But Maguire conjured another effort from Toranfield which looked like succeeding halfway up the hill.

The Cheltenham stewards decided that Maguire had used his whip excessively but sensibly imposed a ban of only one day.

Earlier Maguire had guided Ace Of Spies to a comfortable victory in the Flowers Original Handicap Chase and so convinced Gill Jones that her enigmatic chaser should take his chance in next year's Grand National.

Seagram, winner of this year's National, caught the eye with an excellent debut under top weight and is on course for the Hennessy Gold Cup on November 23 for which he is 20-1 with William Hill.

Nigel Hawke, Seagram's regular rider, rode winners in

New Zealand and Russia during the summer months. Despite his success here, he finds it difficult to obtain outside rides. "I will go anywhere to ride decent horses," Hawke said, "but there are too many jockeys and too few horses."

By contrast, Steve Smith Eccles remains in demand and his victory on Shu Fly in the Whitbread White Label Hurdle was the 799th of his career. Now 35, he has no thoughts of retirement. "I have got another 201 winners to go before I hang up my boots," he said.

Barnbrook Again, winner of the Queen Mother Champion Chase in 1989 and 1990, makes his seasonal debut at Newbury on Wednesday but David Elsworth is unlikely to run Desert Orchid against Morley Street in the Racecall Hurdle at Ascot on Friday.

"I have not totally ruled it out but he is more likely to run in the Peterborough Chase over two-and-a-half miles at Huntingdon on November 26," Elsworth said yesterday. "That would be his only run before the King George VI Chase at Kempton on Boxing Day."



Toranfield takes the third last fractionally ahead of Another Coral, centre, and Pegwell Bay, left, in the Mackeson Gold Cup at Cheltenham on Saturday. Another Coral went on to beat Toranfield by half a length

Booth puts boot to good use

Sale.....18
Moseley.....12

By MICHAEL STEVENSON

WHEN Sale defeated Orrell last season, Richard Booth, their young scrum half, kicked six penalty goals. He did so again on Saturday to nudge his side home in their Pilkington Cup tie with Moseley, by his tally of 18 points to Moseley's goal and two penalty goals.

It was some way from being the boring encounter that the scoreline might suggest, and for the first half-hour Sale played with a clinical, technical perfection that left the visitors bereft of possession. But the pendulum duly swung, and with Maclean, Spiller and Purdy punching jagged holes in Sale's highly vulnerable midfield defence, it looked odds-on a Moseley victory.

But Sale's pack, in which the back row of Macfarlane, Williams and Kenrick, and the lock, Baldwin, were superb, re-established its command and Booth kept popping the ball behind the Moseley halves to maintain pressure and force errors.

Sale ended their 30 minutes of total control 12 points up through Booth's first four penalty goals, kicked from six attempts, and the nearest they had come to a try was when Burnhill was checked inches short. Moseley's first threat materialised when Maclean powered through, but a scoring pass went astray and the ball was scrambled away.

Immediately, Pennington bungled a kickable penalty, when Baldwin was penalised for a stamping offence that had been committed by Raducanu, but Sale killed the ball at a ruck and Pennington's penalty goal cut the deficit almost on the interval.

Early in the second half, Pennington's dropped-goal attempt struck a post, but soon after Fenley worked the blind. Shillingford drove for the line and Linnett picked up to dive over. Pennington's conversion bringing Moseley within three points of parity.

They drew level with a quarter of the match still to come, but Sale kept the turgid tight and Booth settled the issue with two more penalty goals.

SCORERS: Sale: Penalty goals: Booth (6); Moseley: Try: Linnett. Conversion: Pennington. Penalties: Pennington (3). SALE: J. Maclean, K. Young, P. Shillingford, S. Burnhill, R. Boyd, P. Fenley, R. Booth, M. Whitcombe, D. Taylor, A. Maclean, M. Kenrick, D. Baldwin, C. Raducanu, I. Williams, A. Macfarlane. MOSELEY: S. Purdy, R. Thomas, R. Maclean, D. Spiller, A. James, S. Pennington, B. Fenley, M. Ureth, G. Cox, N. Lyman, N. Martin, C. Raymond, S. Lloyd, J. Morris, P. Shillingford. Referee: D. Chapman (RFU).

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Clifton's pack paves way

Clifton.....21
Plymouth Albion.....0By DAVID HANDS
RUGBY CORRESPONDENT

TODAY's third-round draw for the Pilkington Cup will introduce the first division clubs to this season's competition, which is just as well given the high casualty rate among those of the second division on Saturday. While Plymouth Albion's cup season came to an abrupt halt at Cribbs Causeway, five similarly ranked clubs were also summarily ejected.

Perhaps Wakefield's defeat at Tynedale, 21-0, was the most notable of those, since at least Moseley, Morley, Blackheath and Liverpool St Helens lost to their peers. John

Fletcher kicked the conversion of Ian Donkin's try to oust Wakefield, while another Yorkshire club, Headingley (now third division), surrendered to a late try by Martin Dawson which earned Loughborough Students a 17-15 win.

Plymouth arrived at Clifton with a shrewd idea of what to expect, having won by one point last season. Since then, Clifton have been reinforced by further sage heads from Bristol - Saturday's XV included 11 who used to play their rugby at the Memorial Ground - and Alan Morley, their coach, believes the front row is a match for most first division clubs.

It was certainly more than a match for Plymouth, who received an object lesson in the use of the scrum as an attacking force. Trott, Clif-

ton's scrum half, scored both his tries as a direct result of his pack's unity in victory by a goal, three tries and a penalty goal to nil; Trott at the gallop you might say.

But Clifton are much more than an organised scrum. They played with a confidence born of an unbeaten season, now extended to nine matches, and it is no coincidence that Woodman, on the wing, scored his thirteenth try of the season. He has the benefit of a positive midfield, organised by Hogg and including the pace of Brain, a Yorkshireman who has arrived at Clifton via Cornwall.

The prime difficulty, once they start mixing it with the big boys, may be Clifton's lineup. Despite the efforts of Russell and Gregory, it worked well enough on Saturday to take an even share of possession (though neither scrum half would have been enchanted at the quality of delivery on occasions), but Blake and Edbrooke may have to work harder yet for their corn, both when the league matches start this week and in future cup rounds.

In compensation, Clifton have what Hogg, who has played behind them often enough, describes as one of the best ball-handling back-row units in the country. Wyatt can be relied upon to take play forward from No. 8, and what Hogg and, particularly, Polledri lack in inches they make up for in sheer footbalting nous. Polledri, the captain this season, was twice involved in the move which led to Woodman's try, including acting as the pivot for Hogg's loop before a long pass gave the wing room to go outside the cover.

Plymouth, lacking the comfort of early points when Slade missed two penalties, looked better with the ball in hand. Oman was a handful on the left wing and only an exceptional cover tackle by Woodman, which left him nursing a badly bruised shoulder, prevented a Plymouth score which would have reduced Clifton's 10-0 lead.

That derived from Cue's first-half try, courtesy of Woodman's powerful run, and Trott's score at the heels of a five-metre scrum. Nor could Oman convert two penalty attempts and Clifton offered a powerful finish, through Woodman's try and, in injury-time, Trott following a loose ball and collecting the bounce for his second score. What prospect today of Clifton being drawn to play Bristol?

SCORERS: Clifton: Tries: Trott (2), Cue, Woodman. Conversion: Hogg. Penalty goals: Trott (2). STOKTON: Try: Howe. Conversion: Trott. Penalties: Trott (2). STOKTON: M. Farr, L. McKenzie, J. Marshall, S. Chapman, M. Bennett, R. Angell, R. Turner, D. Tabor, R. Coates, W. Ballock, P. Stone, J. Hyde, T. Gutter, P. Thomas (two tries), C. Edwards, M. Howe, M. Wyatt. STOKTON: G. Kall, D. Turner, P. Weston, W. Huddell, P. Bromley, A. Cowell, A. Cartwright, R. Preston, M. Corbin, M. Douthett, J. Allen, P. Webster, J. Saunders, M. Howe, C. Tyeeman (try), M. Wilson. Referee: A. Wilson (London).

Coventry's extra class tells

Coventry.....29
Stockton.....6

By BARRY TROWBRIDGE

A MANOEUVRE conceived on the Stockton training ground and executed to perfection after 30 minutes proved the turning point at Coundon Road on Saturday as Coventry responded positively to progress to the third round of the Pilkington Cup by a goal, two tries and two penalty goals to the goal the move provided.

The try, scored, to quote the public address, "by A Scrum and converted by Alex Guest", was no more unorthodox than most of Stockton's other set moves, but what can unsettle opponents to good effect in league matches in the North-East was never likely to rattle the former cup holders. Indeed, it had the opposite effect, and after an indifferent opening half-hour, when Richard Angell almost invariably took the wrong option at stand-off half and the scant

Coventry following began to taut players and referee alike, the home pack seized the initiative and victory was never in doubt.

Given that those involved with the World Cup spent last week boasting of the knock-out effect their tournament would have, the size of the crowd was worrying. This was, after all, the first competitive weekend of the English season for the likes of Coventry. Three men and a dog would be a cruel comparison, particularly on the ever-present Coundon Road hound that airs its opinions louder than most, but what should have been a day of plenty for the coffers fell well short of expectations.

Displaying rust more appropriate to early September than a couple of months into the season, neither side impressed in the first quarter, even though Paul Thomas claimed a nerve-settling try for Coventry at the base of a surging scrum after only four minutes. Then came the Stockton score. Collecting from a 22-metre drop-out, Martin Howe, their

flanker, drove back some 20 metres and set up a ruck at which Coventry were penalised. Perhaps the defence was expecting a kick at goal; perhaps not. But it certainly had no answer as Stockton took a tap, formed a perfect scrummage formation and drove to the line, Howe claiming the spoils.

Sadly, though, for the side that has lost only four league games while earning three promotions in four seasons, to North 1, their challenge ended there. Angell kicked Coventry back in front just before half-time, and as they claimed squatters' rights to the Stockton 12, Bennett, wide on the left, and Cogrove added tries to take the scoreline nearer to one of reality.

SCORERS: Coventry: Tries: Thomas, Bennett, Cogrove. Conversion: Angell. Penalty goals: Angell (2). STOKTON: Try: Howe. Conversion: Trott. Penalties: Trott (2). COVENTRY: M. Farr, L. McKenzie, J. Marshall, S. Chapman, M. Bennett, R. Angell, R. Turner, D. Tabor, R. Coates, W. Ballock, P. Stone, J. Hyde, T. Gutter, P. Thomas (two tries), C. Edwards, M. Howe, M. Wyatt. STOKTON: G. Kall, D. Turner, P. Weston, W. Huddell, P. Bromley, A. Cowell, A. Cartwright, R. Preston, M. Corbin, M. Douthett, J. Allen, P. Webster, J. Saunders, M. Howe, C. Tyeeman (try), M. Wilson. Referee: A. Wilson (London).

Finalists provide contrast

From PETER BRILL
IN BERMUDA

ENGLAND and New Zealand qualified for today's final of the World Rugby Classic veterans' tournament here, but with two different philosophies.

England beat Wales 32-18 in the first semi-final. The teams' preparations had been a shade unusual - the Friday night party, which included raucous cabaret acts by all the competing sides, did not end for the English and Welsh players until 4am on Saturday.

England, clearly better able to handle the effects, took an early 18-6 lead, but Wales came back strongly to level at 18-18, and when both teams' legs went in the last 20 minutes, the outcome was a source of great humour.

England pulled away with three late tries from close range by their forwards, and even the meeting of the England stand-off half, John Horton, and the Welsh flanker, Paul Ringer, first since the infamous 1980 England v Wales international in which Ringer was sent off, passed off amicably.

By contrast, New Zealand produced a tough, intense performance to beat Scotland 16-4. The New Zealanders, wiry and extremely fit, played a game on a different plateau to every other side in what has been regarded as a light-hearted tournament.

The Scots did their best, but were no match for the grinding play of their opponents, who later spent an hour analysing their performance in critical detail. The England veterans, having long since repaired to the hospitality tent to put back lost fluids, greeted that with disbelief.

Shouts fall well short of mark

Bridgend.....12
Newport.....7

By GERALD DAVES

THERE were three points worthy of note in the first half of a game which proved an unattractive start to the Heineken League and which Bridgend won by a goal and two penalty goals to a try and a penalty goal.

The first may be relevant to the International Rugby Football Board (IRFB) and concerns the mark (or the fair catch). What is to be done with it?

Three times, the mark was called for, and, for whatever the reasons, it was thrice refused. The player on each occasion stood his ground and the shout was made, but play carried on. Under the law, the referee is meant to hear - we hope - and see the intention to play for the fair catch.

However, the IRFB last week made the strange recommendation that the law is to be modified so the player need only shout, in future. He need not be stationary as is the case at the moment. He might even be in mid air doing so. No visual evidence for a fair catch will be required.

In the calm of an autumn afternoon in serene Richmond, with only a handful of spectators in attendance, the call will, I am sure, ring out clear as a bell. But even the referee with the best of hearing will be put severely to the test to make it out when accompanied by the strains of "Swing low, sweet chariot". If the mark is to be retained as a legitimate tactic, the shout is not enough on its own.

Clearly, even under the present law, it remains difficult, as was shown on Saturday and as Derek Bevan, the Welsh referee, found when Gavin Hastings called for a mark in the Scotland game against Western Samoa. Then, play was allowed to continue;

Bevan admitted he failed to hear the call.

The second point is that Newport, if they are to recapture the excellent form of last season, will need more variety than they showed here, particularly around the base of the scrum.

Their options for the short penalties show how enterprising they can be. But in the first half here, they had four scrums in succession on the Bridgend line, and on each occasion Llewellyn broke wide while the ball was held, predictably, in the back row.

The home side defence saw it all coming and was finally given the opportunity to back the ball to safety. The visitors continued in the same vein in the second half.

The third point, thankfully, was more of a pleasure. Bridgend created a lovely continuous movement going left, then right, to give Webb a run to the corner for a wonderful try. Aled Williams, a stand-off half who always shows the fine judgement one should expect from an old Llandoverian, converted this, not to add to the two penalty goals he had kicked earlier.

Bridgend spent most of the second half in defence as Newport kept pushing and shoving, here and there, without attempting much else. Their hard grafting efforts were rewarded with a penalty goal and a try by Harries. But there was not much to warm the bitterly cold afternoon.

After the World Cup, as they say, this was literally bringing the domestic game down to earth with a vengeance.

SCORERS: Bridgend: Try: Webb. Conversion: Williams. Penalty goal: Williams. Newport: Try: Harries. Penalty goal: Harries. BRIDGEND: C. Bradshaw, G. Webb, J. Apes, S. Pritchard, P. Davies, A. Williams, R. Hawley, L. Garsell, L. Pritchard, D. Cunn, C. Lloyd, N. Spender, G. Prosser, D. Bryant, M. Goss. NEWPORT: S. McCracken, A. Harries (two tries), H. Blythe, K. Cheal, A. Lewis, J. Powell, D. Llewellyn, M. Davies, J. Jones, J. Duggan, A. Carter, R. Moseley, D. Waters, G. Gange, M. Gange. Referee: M. Evans (Cardiff).

Richmond turn tables with high ball barrage

Richmond.....22
Blackheath.....12

By BRYAN STILES

ONE of the more compelling lessons of the World Cup was that victory can be achieved by applying the tactics of confusion. Drop a few strategically placed "bombs" on the opposition's defence in the knowledge that there are unlikely to be defenders of the calibre of Hastings, Roebuck or Webb around to gather the ball, and the points should roll in.

Livesey, the Richmond stand-off, no mean exponent of the tactic in the past, clearly had his confidence in the strategy reaffirmed. With his team trailing 12-10 in this Pilkington Cup second round match and seemingly on the way out, he produced a high-level barrage ten minutes from the end that won the positions from which Richmond were able to secure victory.

Blackheath were coasting, content that their two-point lead and their ability to run a tight defence would be enough to set them in the third round, but when the up-and-

unders started raining down, they got soaked. Blackheath lost by two goals, a try, a dropped goal and a penalty goal to a penalty try and two penalty goals. They must have wished that Mickey Skinner, one of England's mainstays of the World Cup, was still in their ranks rather than on the touchline on Saturday watching them fail to press home the advantage their heavier pack gave them.

A touch of Skinner bravado would have been all they needed. The rivalry between the packs boiled over midway through the first half, with the referee having to hand out stern lectures to several players and the forwards at large when a bout of fighting erupted. Fortunately, the lectures did the trick.

Victory must have tasted all the sweeter to Richmond as Blackheath were one of the teams that condemned them to relegation to the third division of the Courage Clubs Championship last season.

Richmond's enterprise and their willingness to run the ball brought them three tries, and the forwards at large while their opponents failed to cross their line in a struggle in

which the lead changed hands five times.

Munn, whose tactical kicking was the main instrument of Blackheath's attack behind the scrum, kicked two penalty goals in the first half and Lloyd replied with a splendid try. Livesey failed to find the target with the conversion on, with three penalties and Richmond, nailed 6-4 at the interval.

A move started on his own 22 by Banks set-up a 40-yard touchline dash by Brown which brought Richmond's second try. Blackheath were awarded a penalty try for a high tackle on Jones as he was going for the line, then came Livesey's barrage which opened the way for a dropped goal and a penalty goal by him, and a converted try for Brown, who charged over from a ruck five metres out.

SCORERS: Richmond: Tries: Lloyd, Brown (2). Conversions: Livesey (2). Dropped goal: Brown. Penalty goal: Brown. BLACKHEATH: Try: Penalty try: Conversion: Brown. Penalty goal: Brown. RICHMOND: Try: Brown. Conversion: Brown. Penalties: Brown (2). Dropped goal: Brown. RICHMOND: S. Skinner, A. Banks, J. Hogg, D. Ellis, S. Llewellyn, M. Brown, J. Jones, J. Duggan, A. Carter, R. Moseley, D. Waters, G. Gange, M. Gange. Referee: C. Harrison (East Midlands).



Close call: Banks, the Richmond full back, fends off Scott

دعواتنا

Chang cruises to his first title for more than a year

The third member of Leeson's team, Lisa Hoffick, clocked the second fastest time of the day behind Lesley Morton, of Westbury, whose valiant efforts failed to salvage a medal for her club.

Tendulkar swings match for India as more than 90,000 herald a famous cricket occasion

South Africa find joy in defeat

From ALAN LEE
CRICKET CORRESPONDENT
IN CALCUTTA

JUST for once, defeat was a glorious beginning rather than a sorry end. South Africa's first match back on the world cricket circuit did not have a romantic result, but this was an isolated occasion when the oldest cliché in sport was true. The game, the occasion, really was the winner.

Staged within ten days of their improbable conception, yesterday's events at Eden Gardens were far more important than a cricket match. And yet, in bringing together two countries who had never previously met, and whose hostile politics had for generations precluded any such possibility, cricket was the catalyst.

They call Calcutta the city of joy, and that, yesterday, was exactly how it was. Whether there were tears of joy, on the field or in the visitors' dressing-room, I cannot confirm, but that there were powerful emotions at work is in no doubt. And why not? After 21 years of largely hopeless isolation, South African sport was reconciled with the world, and in a venue that the dreamers of two decades could not have bettered.

Every seat in the awesome concrete stadium was taken. The official capacity is 90,462, which falls 338 short of the highest attendance in history for a day's cricket, but, because hundreds more were standing in aisles and gangways, India will claim the record and leave others to adjudicate.

The Indians themselves, however, could pronounce on the outcome of their bold, if hurried, venture and were not slow to do so. Jagmohan Dalmiya, a former president of the Indian Board of Control and the man responsible for what might be regarded as a sporting and political coup, said last night: "We will now have an unbroken, unfinished multiple-century partnership with South Africa."

He would have found few dissenters in this teeming city, where Clive Rice's players were treated to a demonstration of respect, which does not mean long silences and polite applause but the constant, ear-shattering cacophany of surging voices and firecracker percussion. This is the most exciting, intimidating crowd in the world, but yesterday, although they might not have wanted South Africa to win, neither did they want them to feel like losers.

Given their unfamiliarity



Balls tell the tale: Kirsten's innings is cut short by Raju as South Africa's first international against India ends in defeat at Calcutta

with the atmosphere, the expectation and even their team-mates, South Africa had little realistic chance of victory. As Ali Bacher, their manager and inspiration, put it: "I would have been terrified to go out there." They had even less chance when, at 8.30am on a smoggy morning, Rice lost the toss. "It was pretty decisive," he said later, and he did not only mean because the moisture made Kapil and Prabhakar look unplayable.

Mike Procter, the coach, revealed later that he had been

hoping to field first to settle his players' nerves. With the bat, there was no hiding place, and when the last ball of the opening over had a rigidly tense Andrew Hudson caught behind, the portents were bleak.

India could play up to 29 one-day internationals this winter, but they were plainly not treating this as just another day on the treadmill. Kapil not only bowled skilfully at speed, he was animated with it, beseeching in his appeals. When Prabhakar was rested, Srinath, tall and with a pleasing, high action, came on to take the treasured wicket of Jimmy Cook.

Helmets were now removed, the pitch too slow to justify their use, and after Kirsten was bowled cutting at the left-arm spin of Raju, the best batting of the innings ensued. Wessels, who had already played 54 such internationals for Australia, and Kuiper, who is the type to play many more now, added 60 in 14 overs. Wessels has been the one South African this week to wear the look of a man who has seen it all before, which, of course, to some extent he has. His quality, however, is not in doubt, and while he accel-

erated stealthily at one end, Kuiper's eye and strength nourished the total from the other.

It was, none the less, a patently inadequate score of 177 in 47 overs which South Africa set out to defend, and with at least two of their main bowlers grievously diminished by the occasion, it might have been a formality for India but for the explosive talent of Allan Donald, the Warwickshire fast bowler.

Only two men in this ageing South African side are younger than Donald, yet on the biggest day of his career he

disclaimed any nerves and bowled India close to embarrassment. Locating his line directly, and generating remarkable pace on such an unhelpful pitch, Donald dismissed Shastri, Manjrekar and Sidhu at a cost of eight runs in his first four overs. Two were out to wretched strokes, but Donald earned them by countless moral victories.

He was magnificent, but so, in turn, was Sachin Tendulkar; and it was the teenage genius who decided the issue. He should have been run out on three, poor Snell dropping a return at the bowler's

stumps, but thereafter he played with utter certainty and sumptuous, wristy timing. It must be doubtful if anyone of 18 has ever played better than Tendulkar.

His captain, Azharuddin, was out to a wild slog, but Pravin Amre, on his debut, was less cavalier and more effective. Donald was twice successfully recalled, but, on the second occasion, Rice left it too late to matter.

The scores were level and four wickets remained; Donald made it three by taking his fifth wicket with the first ball of the over, but the last-trick needed for the fairy-tale was beyond even him.

Flares were lit all around the ground as the South Africans came off. They might not have made the impression they hoped for, but they made new friends and, on this of all extraordinary days, that was just as precious.

Karnachi - Pakistan could be the first team to tour South Africa after the republic's return to world cricket. The Board of Control of Cricket in Pakistan announced on Saturday that it has asked to play there in January.

Leading article, page 17

Selection for Gray marks rehabilitation

From STUART JONES, FOOTBALL CORRESPONDENT, IN POZNAN

THE time has come for Andy Gray, as he was convinced it eventually would. The international novice, whose positive nature borders on arrogance, is expected to make his England debut here, on Wednesday, in the decisive European championship qualifying tie against Poland.

His inclusion in the squad, let alone in the team, was a surprise, but Gray exudes the inner belief demanded by Graham Taylor. "Why shouldn't I get the chance to represent my country?" he said. "People who criticise the England manager for picking me should keep their mouths shut."

Although he speaks softly, his voice is deceptive. Expressing opinions which are as firm and as forceful as his tackle, he defends his own volatile character and the equally controversial methods of his club, Crystal Palace, as well as his right to gain his first cap at the comparatively advanced age of 27.

Although Taylor describes him as "excitable and sometimes in the wrong," Gray insists he has left behind the days when he was prepared to declare physical warfare on Hackney Marshes. "Nobody worries about you if you fight in Sunday league football," he says of his origins.

He learnt the errors of his ill-disciplined ways after being discarded first by the future England manager, Taylor, at Aston Villa, and then by a former England international, Trevor Francis, at Queen's Park Rangers. "They wanted to sell me for the same reasons," he said. "I was no use to them when I was suspended."

A scuffle with Dennis Wise, another temperamental personality introduced to the national side by Taylor and since discarded, persuaded him to change. Both were sent off for an affray at Selhurst Park, 18 months ago, and Gray believes that he has since matured to the benefit, in particular, of Palace.

"Everybody thinks of us as kickers, but we are not," he said. "It is rubbish to suggest that we're not fashionable. We've done well over the last three years. We've reached an FA Cup final, finished third in the League and made our-

selves fashionable. If I'd played for a better team, no one could have criticised my call-up."

"People don't understand the harm they do by criticising. What do they think it does to my confidence? They should be encouraging me. Graham Taylor wouldn't have picked me if he didn't think I could do a job. If I'm selected, they'll never be able to take that away from me."

The recent promotion of other club colleagues (such as Geoff Thomas, who is likely to accompany him on Wednesday, Ian Wright, Nigel Martyn and John Salako) fermented Gray's firm conviction that he would join them.

"I just had to wait a bit longer than them, that's all," he said. Since a third of the squad has virtually no experience, Gray will probably not be the only first-time player. Taylor is not prepared, though, to choose either a new player or a new system in defence. He believes that both would represent too wild a gamble.

But the uncapped players have brought with them "a wide-eyed eagerness," Taylor feels. "And they are already experienced in their own right at their clubs." He would have no reservations, for instance, about bringing in Andy Sinton or the more attack-orientated Tony Daley on the left wing.

Using two fresh components in midfield should not be regarded necessarily as a risk. Taylor, bemused that his design should be so shapeless against Turkey at Wembley last month, will probably seek safety in numbers, as did the Republic of Ireland here, and select five men to support the lone forward, Gary Lineker.

The England manager, disturbed also that his creative department against the Turks looked pedestrian, believes that Gray can offer the unpredictable qualities once supplied by Paul Gascoigne. Yet his predecessor, Bobby Robson, once referred to Tottenham's more talented individual as "a time bomb who could explode in our own faces". Nobody can be sure that the damage caused by Gray will also be self-destructive.

Laura Thompson, page 38
Beck's way, page 39

Quinn cleared to travel with side

From PETER BALL IN DUBLIN

JACK Charlton's usual philosophical approach was put under strain yesterday as his team reported to its Dublin hotel en route to Turkey for the European championship group 7 qualifying match on Wednesday. With seven senior players missing, it was not so much a check in as a body count.

There was one tentative piece of good news; Niall Quinn, the Manchester City forward, proving fit enough to travel with the team today, even if his readiness remains doubtful. "I'm travelling out

there, which gives me another two or three days to get fit," Quinn said.

The greater damage, however, has been done to his midfield, and yesterday Liam O'Brien, of Newcastle United, was brought in. The latest blow came with the loss of Chris Morris, who pulled a hamstring in Celtic's win over Aberdeen. Morris would have replaced either Irwin, at full back or Houghton, whose withdrawal on Friday left the midfield decimated, with Townsend, Keane, Whelan and Sheridan already missing.

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Racing considers shift of power

By RICHARD EVANS, RACING CORRESPONDENT

THE Jockey Club will today take the first tentative step towards power-sharing when its stewards consider a blueprint for a new organisation to run horse racing. If the historic proposals are agreed, they will be put before the Jockey Club's 120 members next month.

The Jockey Club is a self-electing body which is officially responsible for the proper organisation, administration and control of all horse racing, race meetings and training in the United Kingdom. With the sport in decline due to years of underfunding, the Jockey Club has faced increasing criticism in recent months.

A Commons select committee report this summer concluded that racing lacked commercial and democratic accountability and required a "powerful and competent single body to speak for and manage the racing industry."

Lord Hartington and Christopher Haines, the senior steward and chief executive, have headed a four-strong

team which has been examining power-sharing options. The paper to be discussed today envisages owners, racecourses and the Jockey Club being the main constituents of a new racing board.

A recent report, submitted by the Horseracing Advisory Council, racing's unofficial think-tank, recommended any new governing body should have wider representation and include trainers and jockeys.

The move towards much-needed reform comes at a critical time for racing. The select committee recommended that the sport should be allowed to run the Tote once it had put its "house in order".

Proposals for a new governing body could also influence the home secretary, who has to settle the dispute between bookmakers and racing over the size of levy payments next year. Racing is seeking the £50 million recommended by MPs; bookmakers are offering £35.5 million.

Mackeson victory, page 40
Today's cards, page 41

Guscott resists the fortune proffered by rugby league

By DAVID HANDS, RUGBY CORRESPONDENT

JEREMY Guscott, the Bath and England centre, put a stop yesterday to rumours that he may be about to play rugby league or join another rugby union club. He chose the medium of a Sunday newspaper to reveal that he had declined offers which could have been worth up to £1 million to sign professional forms after contacts from three rugby league clubs in England and one in Sydney.

Contracts worth between £200,000 and £350,000 have been offered Guscott, who is married and has spent his life in the Bath area, where he works for British Gas. But his ambitions remain in rugby union, like his centre partner and captain, Will Carling, who has also turned down substantial offers to play the professional game.

Guscott, aged 26, who has scored 12 tries in his 18 England appearances, has seldom been over to throwing out ambiguous comments and then watching the reaction. Having said several months ago that he intended, not

unreasonably, to take a rest after the World Cup, his potential absence from the start of Bath's league programme (against London Irish on Saturday) has been interpreted as the prelude to a career change.

However, Guscott said in the *Sunday Mirror*: "I am happy living and working where I am... I have had a week off to clear my head and I will resume light training with Bath this week." In fact,



Guscott: unmoved

Guscott is one of the present England squad most likely to capitalise on the relaxed amateurism laws, once the Rugby Football Union has been able to resolve with the International Rugby Football Board what the players may legitimately do.

"If players are celebrities in their own right, they should be allowed to capitalise," Guscott said. "I do see the game changing in that respect - and that helped me reach my decision [not to move]."

The distinction, of course, lies in the fact that players become celebrities because of their involvement with rugby. Simon Hodgkinson, Guscott's England colleague during the winning of the grand slam last year, damaged a calf muscle during Nottingham's 32-22 defeat by Wasps on Saturday. Though it was not serious, he will miss his club's first two league games, against Bristol and Harlequins, because he is taking a holiday.

More rugby, page 40

Edberg's schedule takes toll

THE injury problems which hit the Diet Pepsi Challenge tennis tournament in Birmingham last week have spread to this week's \$2.25 million ATP world championships in Frankfurt (Andrew Longmore writes).

Stefan Edberg, the world No. 1, has withdrawn with severe inflammation behind the right knee. He is also doubtful for the \$6 million Grand Slam Cup in Munich next month. Tony Pickard, Edberg's coach, said the injury was the result of playing too many matches too often.

Jim Courier takes over as top seed for the eight-man Frankfurt event, which starts tomorrow, with Karel Novacek, of Czechoslovakia, filling Edberg's place. Novacek joins Courier, Ivan Lendl and Guy Forget in one group, with Boris Becker, Michael Stich, Andre Agassi and Pete Sampras in the other.

Easy for Chang, page 42
